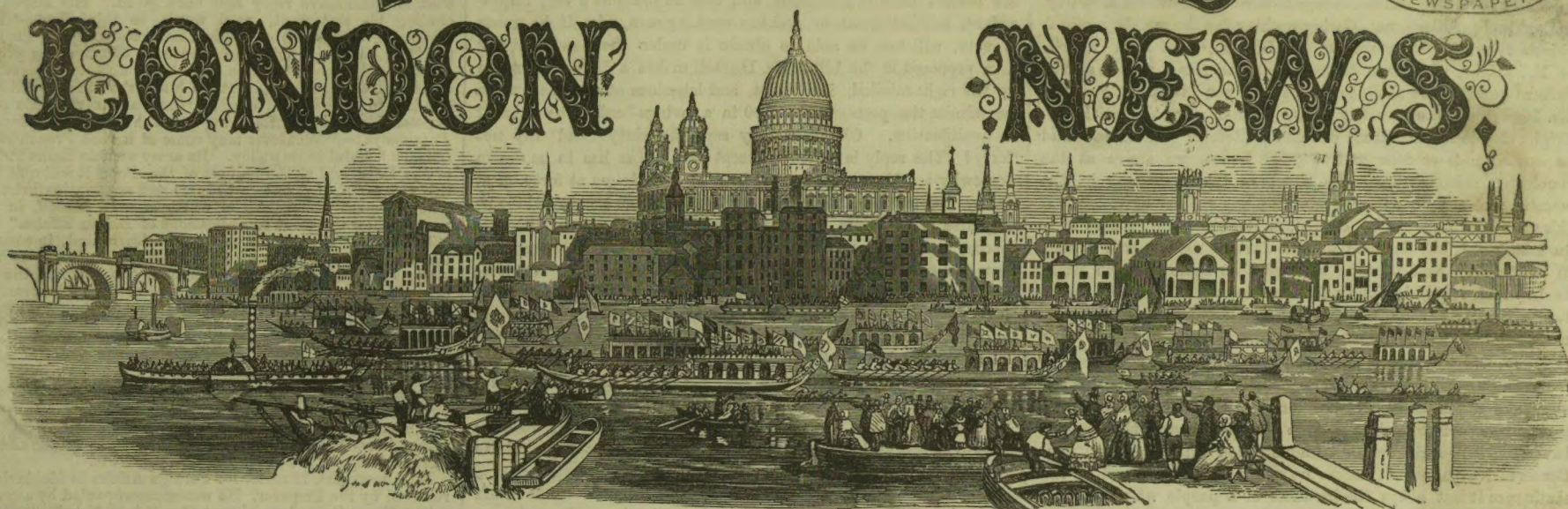
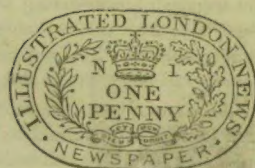


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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THE NEW REFORM BILL.

THE Reform Bill of our Conservative Administration is at last before the country. During the three weeks that are to elapse between its introduction and its second reading the people will have

ample opportunity of discussing it. If we may judge from the temper displayed by Lord John Russell, Mr. Bright, Mr. Roebuck, and some of the lesser lights of the Opposition, vigorous efforts will be made out of the House to excite dissatisfaction both with its principles and its details. It is not in

political, or perhaps in human, nature that such a measure should receive impartial consideration. To be the author of a Reform Bill is a distinction in itself worthy the struggles of a life; but to carry a Reform Bill through the House of Commons, and to be the author of a Reform Act, is a passport to such immortality



TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION OF THE STUDENTS IN BERLIN IN HONOUR OF THE BIRTH OF AN HEIR TO THE THRONE.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

of fame as the history of Great Britain can bestow. And it is not wonderful, considering who Mr. Disraeli is, and how he has risen, that his rivals or enemies should strive to snatch this brilliant laurel from his forehead. Not alone power and place, but honour and glory, are at stake upon the issue!

We on our part, as representing a public opinion which is anxious that right should be done, whomsoever may be the agents appointed to do it, shall endeavour to divest ourselves of all party feelings and predilections. Caring nothing for the merely personal objects or accidental position of Mr. Disraeli, Lord John Russell, or Mr. Bright, who seem to represent the three angles of the Reform question, we shall, to the best of our judgment, consider Mr. Disraeli's measure solely on its merits. Agreeing with Mr. Bright that it matters little whether a Reform Bill of any kind be carried now or four or five years hence, we arrive at the conclusion that, whatever the House of Commons may do, the country will not be whipped up into any violent agitation. If this particular measure be carried, a Reform party, taking it as an instalment, but desirous of still further reform, will remain in existence. And if it be rejected that same Reform party, flushed with something like a factious victory, will have an opportunity similar to that which Mr. Disraeli enjoys at the present moment, and which he and his friends may, in their turn, embitter, and complicate, and perhaps destroy.

Presuming our readers to be acquainted with the principles and objects of the measure, we shall simply state our opinion that it goes much further, and is a more liberal measure, than was to have been expected from an Administration which represents the Conservative party. It makes no sweeping changes, and in this abstinence it but obeys the instincts of a people who, above all the nations of modern time, have an aversion from doing things hastily, and even systematically;—whose Constitution sprung from no man's brain, was devised by no man's genius, was pre-arranged by no philosophy and no philosopher, but grew with the slow growth of ages, out of circumstances which no statesmen foresaw, but which all endeavoured to turn to practical result. The Bill follows the old precedents. It patches and amends, and does not pretend to overthrow or to reconstruct; and this will be its best recommendation and chance of success.

Few critics out of the narrow circuit of faction will object to the partial disfranchisement of the fifteen small boroughs now returning two members each, but which are hereafter to return but one. Neither will many unprejudiced persons object to the bestowal of the franchise upon the seven new boroughs named in Schedule I, or to the eight additional representatives which it is proposed to give to the West Riding of Yorkshire, to South Lancashire, and to Middlesex. Ardent reformers may and will urge that a greater number of decaying boroughs should have been wholly or partially disfranchised, and a greater number of representatives given to such places as Glasgow, Manchester, Birmingham, and the Metropolitan Boroughs. But this is a question for the future, while the passing of this particular bill will not prevent from receiving in due time its proper consideration. Reform is not a word to be thrown into the obsolescence of past ages, like the Heptarchy. Some reforms must be left to the present and to a future generation; for the political and social Millennium has not yet dawned upon any part of the world, and Great Britain is peopled by men and not by angels.

Two principles introduced into the Bill seem to us to merit especial approbation—the one that grants a vote to intellect and economy, that cannot claim the privilege in right of a house or a freehold; and the other that allows a man to vote by his signature, if his personal presence at the polling-booth be inconvenient or impossible. Mr. Disraeli might have extended the application of the first of these principles a little further than he has done. Perhaps he will do so, if the House or the country express itself strongly upon the point; and he certainly may do so without loss of dignity, or derogation from his high standing as the author or introducer of the bill. In great cities, such as London, the bestowal of the suffrage upon lodgers paying 8s. a week, or £20 a year, will admit within the pale of the Constitution a large number of working men—workers with the head as well as with the hand—and must be considered a liberal concession to the growing intelligence of the lower substratum of the middle classes. But in small country towns the boon will be inoperative, for the ratio, though small in London, will be large in the provinces. Why not establish a residential suffrage—say of five or six years in a town or borough, independent of the amount of rental, whether for house or lodging? Or if a rental must be fixed, why not the same for a lodging as for a house, if the man have lived in the borough for a certain specified term. A man who has resided five or six years in a place, not being a pauper or a felon, must have carried on some profitable trade or industry, or have been possessed of independent means. To this extent he must be adjudged a useful citizen, and deserve a vote.

The lowering of the county qualification to the same ratio as that of the towns seems at first glance to be a fair and reasonable proposition. Yet it may open the door to intimidation over the newly-enfranchised class—a class too poor to be independent of the control of landlords, titled or untitled. Were the Ballot a part of the measure there could be no insuperable objection to the admission of this class; but without the Ballot it behoves the friends of a real representation of the people to look well to it, lest evil be done under the semblance of good, and a reactionary principle be admitted under the disguise of a progressive one.

Lord Palmerston appears disposed to hold aloof in the meantime. But Lord John Russell is decided. He objects to the bill for disfranchising the forty-shilling freeholders, who live in the immediate vicinity of boroughs, and complains that the county vote is taken from them without an equivalent. He also objects that too little is done for the "working" classes. Mr. Bright participates in these objections, but urges them more strongly. There is doubtless some force in the first objection. The most independent of the county voters, the least likely to be cajoled or intimidated, were the forty-shilling freeholders; and we do not see what object, except an unfair party advantage, is to be gained by their exclusion from the county franchise. To say that they will obtain votes for the boroughs by virtue of the £10 franchise for the houses they inhabit is no answer to the objection which Lord John Russell and Mr. Bright have taken. We expect that

on this point Mr. Disraeli will have to yield. It is scarcely one, we think, on which he will peril the existence of the Administration, or make an appeal to the country.

On the second objection taken by Lord John Russell, Mr. Bright, and the ultra-Liberal party, it is not so clear that Mr. Disraeli is in the wrong. Those who talk so indignantly of the exclusion of the working men from the right to vote ought to recollect that there are several doors of admission, and that he must be a very improvident, self-indulgent, or reckless working man, who, if he wants a vote, will not be able to obtain it under the amended system proposed in the bill. Mr. Disraeli makes a large concession to the right-minded, intelligent, and laborious of this class when he admits the possession of £60 in a savings-bank to be of itself a qualification. Objectors may say why sixty? and why not forty? The reply is difficult, except that a line has to be drawn somewhere. If sixty be not the line, let it be drawn at forty, or at thirty; but let the principle be conceded. There is many a labouring man who wastes his five or six pounds a year in filthy tobacco, and in sensual indulgences and degrading pleasures, who now clamours against the system that denies him a vote. But if he were worthy of a vote, and resolutely determined to obtain it, there is no difficulty in the way that self-control and prudent economy—if he began to practice these virtues early enough—would not surmount ere he was twenty-five or thirty years of age. Unless we are to have Universal Suffrage—for which the nation is not ripe—there must be some mode or principle of exclusion; otherwise, property and intelligence may be swamped by reckless improvidence, and the rule of the proletariat be the prelude to revolution and to anarchy.

Upon the whole, we do not think the Bill will create much enthusiasm either for or against it. Its rejection will excite no regret, and its passing will be hailed with no fervour of satisfaction. With some unimportant exceptions, easily to be amended in Committee, it appears to be a safe measure as far as it goes. It will, if carried, postpone till a future day anything like a real Reform agitation; but that it will settle the question even for so short a period as five or six years we see very much reason to doubt.

But let the present House of Commons beware of factious opposition. The country is not in the mood for faction fights or party intolerance. There is other work to be done besides this, and but little time to do it in.

TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION OF THE STUDENTS IN BERLIN.

ON the night of the 16th ult., as noticed in this Journal, there was in Berlin a grand torchlight procession of the students in honour of the birth of an heir to the Prussian throne. The Berlin correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* thus describes the animated scene:—"Although a wet and windy night, by six o'clock a dense crowd, numbering many thousands, had congregated *Unter den Linden* to witness the imposing cavalcade. A lurid glare, resembling the smoke and reflection of a mighty conflagration, preceded the path of the festal pomp. Twenty constables on horseback were the next apparition, and dignified enough they looked for the occasion. Then came, in four or five state carriages, each drawn by four horses, the members of the students' deputation, who were to enter the palace, and present an address to the Prince. They were in full dress, but wearing coquettishly on their heads, according to the colours of their respective associations, the small 'cervis-kappe,' the so-called beer-hat of the German student, greatly resembling an English soldier's cap minus the brim. After these introductory personages, what may be called the ordinary members of the procession showed themselves. Prancing on mettled steeds, half-a-dozen noble forms, in the prime of youthful manhood, presented themselves to our eyes. Garb of mediaeval fancifulness of old served more distinctly to delineate their figures. A tunic of black velvet reaching to the knees, wellington boots, and breeches of white leather, were the component parts of a suit, whose fantastic yet chastely-simple character was completed by a feathered cap of black velvet, somewhat similar to that appearing on the self-painted portrait of Raphael. A scarf, in the colours of their associations, hung from the right shoulder, and their swords were drawn. A strange aspect to an Englishman's eye was exhibited by their turned-down collars, of a size more considerable than any wilful spark in the three United Kingdoms would condescend to wear. We had scarcely time to notice that one of them carried aloft a magnificent banner, when the splendid fellows passed, and the infantry of the procession commenced. Again a dozen leaders marched in rank and file, clad in the costume of the horsemen—jack-boots, feathers, swords, and all. At last men in a costume approaching the civilised dress of this century were descried. But these, too, had their mental organs surmounted by the indispensable beer-cap, their throats being likewise encircled with the mammoth collars above mentioned. The coat they wore is best characterised as a Quaker's surcoat, only much shorter, and of black velvet. Instead of scarfs, they contented themselves with narrow ribbons of variegated hues. Thus they leisurely proceeded two and two, each holding his mighty torch in the hand outside, and occasionally waving it high in the air, so as to form a fiery circle above his head. They were divided into separate detachments, each preceded by a number of comrades in full state. Indeed, after every twenty or thirty couples, from five to ten students in the grand attire before described (*voller Wicks*, as they call it) formed agreeable interludes in the continuous line of the cavalcade. About 400 had gone by, when a less pretending class entered upon the scene. These were clad in all sorts of common day wear, and consisted, as I am told, of members of the University unconnected with any of those aristocratic and semi-martial student associations well known under the time-honoured denomination of "Corps" and "*Landmannschaften*." A detachment of the latter closed the array, which I think must have exceeded a thousand in all. All the while they passed along the *Linden* the shouts of the public mingled with the sounds of their bands. Thus they arrived before the palace of Prince Frederick William, where a flaming square was formed, and the national hymn sung, whilst the deputation repaired to the presence of his Royal Highness. A wonderful impression was produced by the singing. Every other sound was hushed as soon as the students struck up that glorious tune, so grateful to the ear both of English and Prussian. Here and there stray voices among the public joined the academical chorus, till at length, before the commencement of the second verse, the whole innumerable host assembled, between the Schloss and the *Linden*, united as one mighty voice in the same patriotic hymn.

The Prince received the deputation in the most gracious manner. He told them that, with the assistance of God, he intended to educate his son so as to make him fit for his future task, and worthy of the love of the nation. He thanked them especially for the toasts drunk by many of the corps in all Germany immediately on receiving the intelligence of the birth of a Prince. On dismissing them, he said that he envied their present happy condition, and always remembered the time that he had spent amongst them with pleasure.

Cheers for the Prince, the Princess Royal, and the Royal infant were loud and long continued by the waiting multitude. After this the students intoned the Horatian ode, "*Integer Vitæ*," which is one of the standard pieces for a similar occasion. Then they marched to a large square in the neighbourhood, where the torches were thrown on a heap and burned to ashes, amidst the singing of the principal students' air, "*Gaudeamus igitur*."

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

The withdrawal of the French troops from Rome appears to be determined on. The Paris Correspondent of the *Independence Belge*, writing on Saturday evening, says:—"To-day the Council of Ministers was convoked and presided over by the Emperor. His Majesty informed the Council that the apostolic nuncio had officially demanded the recall of the French troops now occupying Rome, and that an affirmative reply had been given. His Majesty, in concluding his statement, used words to this effect:—'You know, Messieurs, with what solicitude I have watched over the interests of the Holy Father; what zeal I have ever displayed in protecting his dignity. To-day he believes that he is able to dispense with the assistance of my Government. I have taken the resolution to abandon him to the chances to which the obstinacy of his government exposes him, in not following my disinterested counsels.' The *Patrie* says:—'Whatever may come of it, the French Government remains faithful to its policy. Its army went to Rome at the request of the Pope, and at the request of the Pope it will quit Rome. In this new proof of disinterestedness and moderation France will find a new element of strength of which to avail herself, in the endeavour to show the great complications of Italian affairs.' The *Constitutionnel* of Thursday says:—"We learn that, in consequence of the communication addressed by Cardinal Antonelli to the French Ambassador at Rome, the Emperor has ordered the immediate evacuation by our troops of the Pontifical City. A message received here to-day announces, as it is asserted, that the French corps d'armée had been forthwith withdrawn to Civita Vecchia, there to await the transport-vessels which will convey the troops back to France."

It is stated that the formation of an army of the Alps is resolved on; the command is to be given to General M'Mahon. Meanwhile a portion of the army of Lyons has received orders to hold itself in readiness, and a telegraphic despatch from Paris is all that is required to send it at a couple of hours' notice to Toulon and Marseilles, where transports are in readiness to receive it.

M. Allessandri, Minister for Foreign Affairs in Moldavia, has been received by the Emperor. He was unaccompanied by any deputation.

The Havre journals announce that Prince Napoleon, as Minister of Algeria and the Colonies, has just entered into a contract with a great shipping-house of Bordeaux for the conveyance of 10,000 Chinese immigrants into Martinique.

The *Moniteur* officially announces the appointment of Captain Marquis de Montaignac de Chauvance to the command of the French squadron in the Newfoundland waters. The Marquis will hoist his flag on the *Gassendi*, first-class steam-avis.

Experiments are being made at Paris to explode mines by electricity. The Imperial Guard is to be supplied in the course of next month with four batteries of the new rifle cannon. The Emperor will, it is said, be present at the trial of the guns at Versailles.

The Minister of State, M. Achille Fould, publishes a long decree in the *Moniteur*, fixing a uniform musical diapason for all France. It appears that the whole of Christendom has been singing too high, and accordingly vocalists and fiddlers alike are to be brought down a peg by the general arbitrator of the harmonies of Europe. The Conservatoire, theatres, schools, and concerts are henceforward all to tune their voices and instruments to a *la* regulated to "870 vibrations to the second."

The *Salut Public* of Lyons says:—"All the growing crops in this neighbourhood, being favoured by the unusually mild temperature, present the most satisfactory appearance. The corn-fields and meadows are beautifully green, and colzas will very soon be in flower. Large flocks of birds of passage are already returning."

ITALY.

EVACUATION OF THE STATES OF THE CHURCH BY FRANCE AND AUSTRIA.—On the 22nd inst. Cardinal Antonelli announced to the Ambassadors of France and Austria that the Pope, believing his authority strong enough to maintain peace in his dominions, considers his own power sufficient to warrant the security of his throne, and that consequently his Holiness was ready to enter into arrangements with the two Powers for the simultaneous evacuation of his territory by the French and Austrian army with the least possible delay.

AUSTRIAN ITALY.—The works of fortification along the Ticino, at Pavia, and at the environs, are carried on actively. There are daily arrivals of troops at Milan. About 20,000 refugees are assembled in Piedmont. General Gylai and staff have arrived at Milan. There was a great display at a funeral at Milan on the 23rd ult., when ten thousand people followed the young Count Emilio Dandolo to the grave. The procession passed along the Corso to the city cemetery. All the accustomed carriages were filled with ladies in deep mourning as it passed. The coffin bore a garland of flowers forming an Italian tricolour wreath. The official mourners were four comrade defenders of Rome in 1848. In consequence of these demonstrations it is said numerous arrests and domiciliary visits have taken place, but several persons whom it was intended to arrest succeeded in escaping. The prisoners were conducted to the castle and delivered over to a military commission. The following evening there was a disturbance at La Scala Theatre, but order was soon restored. [We shall give an Engraving of the funeral of Count Dandolo next week.]

PIEDMONT.—In execution of the law concerning the loan, the official *Piedmontese Gazette* publishes a decree by which the Minister of Finance is authorised to alienate by public subscription one and a half million francs of the Five per Cent Rente at the price of 79. The *Genoa Gazette* announces that a collision took place on Monday between some Modenese soldiers and Sardinian peasants in the neighbourhood of Sarzana. The soldiers pulled down a tricoloured flag which was hoisted on the frontier, and trampled it under foot. The following day two hundred Modenese soldiers, with two pieces of cannon, made a demonstration on the frontier, and again removed the flag, which had been re-hoisted. The peasants then assembled with arms, and some shots were fired on each side.

PRUSSIA.

The infant son of the Prince and Princess Frederick William is to be baptised to-day (Saturday).

On Wednesday the Ministry, urged by the repeated proposals of the several States of the Zollverein, decided upon proposing to the Zollverein resolutions prohibiting the exportation of horses on all the frontiers without exception.

In the sitting of the Chamber of Deputies of the 25th of February the Minister of Finance, M. de Patow, brought forward four bills, on the following subjects:—1. A new distribution of the land-tax. 2. The creation of a general tax on buildings. 3. The extension of the land-tax to estates hitherto exempted from it. 4. An indemnity to be granted to landowners who had been formerly exempted.

At Berlin, on the 24th inst., Field-Marshal Count Dohna was interred with military and Court honours of the highest class.

AUSTRIA.

Lord Cowley and his family, with two attachés, arrived at Vienna on Sunday morning. His Lordship had an audience of the Emperor on Monday, and on Tuesday there was a grand dinner at Court in his honour, at which all the foreign Ambassadors were invited. A banquet at Court was also given to his Lordship on Wednesday, and the English Ambassador, Lord Loftus, entertained him on Thursday. Lord Cowley will leave Vienna, it is said, to-day.

The Emperor has made the Protestants in Vienna a present of a piece of ground on which to build a school-house.

SWITZERLAND.

The Grand Council of Ticino assembled on Monday, and elected as its president, by thirty-three votes to fifteen, M. Battaglini, a Radical advocate. Thirty members, whose elections have not been yet admitted from complaints made, refrained from voting.

HANOVER.

The First Chamber has abandoned its former resolution, concerning the prohibition of exportation of horses, and has unanimously adopted the resolution of the Second Chamber, which was, that Government should be requested to use its influence with the Federal Diet for the purpose of obtaining resolutions calculated to avert

from Germany the threatening danger of war, and if necessary to repel with united federal power any attacks on Austria or other German states.

UNITED STATES.

The *New York* arrived at Southampton on Thursday, with American mails and advices of the 19th ult.; and 70,000 dollars for France.

Intelligence has been received by the American Government of the intention of England to carry out the provisions of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty in accordance with American views.

A special message had been received from the President asking Congress to confer upon him the power to use the military and naval forces of the country to protect the Nicaragua transit route, also the Panama and Tehuantepec routes. The Senate adjourned without action upon it.

The proceedings of Congress on Saturday, the 12th ult., were important, involving the admission of a new State into the Confederacy, the Oregon bill having passed the House precisely as it went through the Senate, by 114 yeas to 103 nays.

The Secretary of the Interior has asked Congress for an appropriation of 20,000 dollars for taking the census of Kansas, with a view to its admission into the union, in accordance with the recommendation of the President in his annual message.

In the Indiana Senate, on the 15th ult., a collision occurred between Senators Gooding and Heffron, in consequence of some personal remarks made by both in the Senate some days ago.

The Supreme Court of the State of California has decided that the law passed last year prohibiting the immigration of Chinese is void on account of its unconstitutionality.

Advices from Leavenworth, K.T., to the 12th ult., says a bill abolishing and prohibiting slavery in the territory had passed the Legislature; but it will doubtless receive the veto of Governor Medary.

At Savannah, on the 14th ult., the grand jury found true bills against Messrs. Selvas and Mares, and Mr. Cassiniers, the captain of the barque *Angelita*, seized there on suspicion of being fitted up for the slave trade.

The *New York Times* says:—"We have rather exciting news this morning from the coast of Africa, contained in official correspondence of the Navy Department. It seems that on the 11th of Oct. last the American brigantine *Rutus Soule*, which had cleared from Matanzas for the African coast, was boarded by the British steamer *Viper*, searched, and burned. The correspondence between the commander of the *Vincennes* and the captain of the *Viper* shows that the American flag was flying at the time of the seizure, and that the captain threw his papers overboard when called upon to show them. The circumstances of the case leave little room to doubt that she was a slaver."

CANADA.

(From our Correspondent.)

TORONTO, Feb. 13.

It is with much gratification that I have to record that the Queen's decision establishing the Canadian seat of government is respected, and that we have been spared the shame of seeing our Parliament ignoring its own deliberately expressed vote. But I will say now that the struggle is past, at least virtually so, for amendments are threatened—the debate has not been unproductive of good, for much that was said was suggestive. The proposition to have the question an open one until the settlement of the Federal Union met with a contemptuous reception. It was felt to be both an insincere and impolitic motion; insincere because the question itself was hardly in its inception; impolitic, because, if carried, it would have simply been offensive to the Home Government, and have passed no result. An amendment to Mr. Sicotte's amendment, however, occupied a more tangible position; and although the Opposition urged against the Government that it had been suggested by them so as to allow their supporters to vote for the address and yet to stand fair with their constituents, its mover asserted that it originated with himself. This amendment, which was negatived by the vote of 13 to 162, was to the effect "that an address be presented to her Majesty to represent that this House humbly prays her Majesty to reconsider the selection she has been advised to make of a future capital of Canada, and to name Montreal as such future capital." It was not until last Thursday that the vote of the amendment of Mr. Sicotte was taken, which was thrown out by a majority of five, the numbers being 64 to 59. The vote thus taken may be regarded as a fair trial of strength. It is not in itself a finality, but it may be virtually so considered; for amendment after amendment may be expected, although for what reason they are brought forward it is difficult to tell, as the movers of them must know their own weakness. Although there was a great deal of bitterness and recrimination, the tone of the debate was on the whole not discreditable to the province, for the personalities were at least confined to public life, and to those contradictory evidences of opinions which evidently were not seriously changed, but rather abandoned for the prospect of office.

During the last week the weather has been cold in the extreme. I regret much to say that we have three men under sentence of death for murder in the Toronto gaol. It is supposed that two will be reprieved.

CHINA.

(From our Special Artist and Correspondent.)

CANTON, Jan. 13.

There has been fighting here since my last. It originated in this way,—a party of about 1500 men were walking for exercise, as has been their wont during the magnificent dry weather of the last three months, but, instead of wandering northward, they were led by Parkes right upon a camp of "Braves," who no sooner saw such a force advancing than they fired upon our troops, but without effect, as usual. One Celestial was run through the body by an officer, but nothing of consequence took place, except our having to retire within the walls, as darkness would have overtaken us had we stopped out fighting. After some deliberation it was resolved to annihilate the "Invincible Braves"—who have never yet acknowledged a defeat—if the ringleaders were not given up within three days, and the walls of this city were placarded to that effect. The three days having elapsed, and there being no tokens of submission, the troops were ordered to provide four days' rations. On Saturday, the 8th, at six, the garrison marched out of the city, and at the same time the gun-boats went round by Sulphur Creek; the *Woodcock* gun-boat, with Captain McCleverty and Staff, lead the way, if I remember right, and, arriving near a Chinese six-gun battery, received a shot in her bows, one through the rigging, and another close under the stern—not such bad practice for the Braves. However, what can a Chinese battery do against gun-boats? The gallant six-gun fort was attacked by the ship-devils and taken; and the Naval Brigade advanced in the rear at the same time as the troops were advancing in front, engaging the Chinese near a bridge, where they were in strong position, and had a battery of thirteen guns. The Chinese seeing this movement in their rear, and being placed between two fires, retired comfortably out of range, and have not been seen since. Of course, we could not pursue them. A house full of arms and stinkpots was gutted, and the arms destroyed. The head of a European was found buried. But few were killed, and not many wounded. On our side only three or four were wounded. Several dwellings and joss-houses having been burnt, the army returned, and was met at the North Gate by the band of the 65th Bengal Native Infantry.

The few who remained in the city during the absence of the expedition were under considerable apprehension lest, profiting by the reduced numbers of the garrison, the Chinese would endeavour to attack the city; but the night passed off quietly. There was a report that the West Gate had been attempted by a bag of gun-powder; but for this fact I will not vouch. I am afraid excursions in the country will not be very safe in future. The street-signboards, such as the "Strand," "Rue de l'Est," &c., were found in one of the villages. The Earl of Elgin will not be pleased when he hears of the treaty having been broken so soon.

[Some drawings by our own Special Artist sent with this letter will appear in future numbers of our Journal.]

Hong-Kong journals of January 15 report the Earl of Elgin's return to Shanghai from, as it seems, a perilous voyage up the Yang-tse-kiang as far as Hankow; and also a battle-royal in the vicinity of Canton on Jan. 8—described by our Correspondent.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

The following telegrams have been received at Mr. Reuter's office:—

TURIN, March 3.

A public subscription to cover the loan has been opened at the Bank. A large number of persons have subscribed, and it is certain that the whole loan will be covered if not exceeded.

Mr. Gladstone has arrived here and will dine to-day at the residence of the English Ambassador Sir James Hudson. Count Cavour and General della Marmora are among the invited.

Numerous volunteers continue to arrive from the different Italian States.

Letters from Placenza announce that the number of the Austrian troops in that place is increasing daily: 12,000 men have been placed on a war footing since the 1st of March.

BERLIN, Thursday, March 3.

The latest news from Vienna state that Lord Cowley hopes for a better result to his endeavours than appeared would be the case at the time of his arrival.

MARSEILLES, March 3.

Advices from Constantinople to the 23rd of February state that the appointment of the Minister of Finance has been revoked.

A convention has been signed for the purpose of forming a new bank in London.

Sir Henry Bulwer has remitted a note to the Porte, in which he claims the fulfilment of the promises made by the Humayoum. It is believed that Sir Henry was acting in concert with France.

The fugitive Bulgarians are seeking refuge in the caverns of the Balkan and of Servia. The Porte is increasing its military preparations, and all the redifs have been called in. It is said that Osman Pacha will command the corps of observation in Schumla.

There is a violent agitation in the Epirus and in Thessaly. The Divan and the Greek Patriarch are engaged in a dispute on the subject of reforms in ecclesiastical matters.

PARIS, Thursday, March 3.

A report is current that Austria has made counter-proposals to Lord Cowley, which have been supported by Prussia. It is asserted that the vessels had left which were to convey the troops back to France.

INDIA.

The following despatch was received at the Foreign Office, from Acting Consul-General Green, on Wednesday:—

CAIRO, Feb. 23.

The steamer *Bombay*, from Bombay, arrived at Suez on the 21st inst.

A general order had been issued by the Governor-General, containing these words:—"Lord Clyde announces that the campaign in which the troops under immediate command have been engaged is closed, and that rebellion no longer exists in Oude."

Sir Jung Bahadur is stated to have issued a proclamation to the effect that he will surrender to the British Government all insurgents found within his territory.

The Begum and several other chiefs have escaped into Nepal.

Sir Hugh Rose is making active preparation for finally subduing the Rohillas.

The Nawab of Furruckabad arrived at Futtyghur on the 28th ultimo as a prisoner, having given himself up to Major Bruce of the Oude police.

JOHN GREEN.

Received from Alexandria, by mail-packet *Benar*, at 9.40 a.m., March 2.

FANSHAW, Admiral.

The Portuguese Government, we learn by telegraph, has contracted with the Bank of Lisbon a loan of 600,000,000 of reals.

SERBIA.—The Porte has declared its disavowal of the manifesto of Prince Milosch, in which he asserts his authority as an hereditary ruler.

WEST INDIA AND PACIFIC MAILS.—The *Atrato* arrived at Southampton on Thursday afternoon with the West India and Pacific Mails and 804,000 dollars. The islands were generally healthy. Mexico is in a disturbed state. General Miramon was advancing with 10,000 men to take Vera Cruz. The squadrons of England, France, and America were at Sacrafcios watching events. A revolution has commenced in Chili; nearly the whole public were under martial law. An outbreak was expected at Peru. The British ship *Gentoo*, from Australia, was wrecked on the rocks near Panama.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AT ROME.—Last week his Royal Highness availed himself of the fine weather to visit almost all the antiquities of the southern and eastern part of the city, from the Tiber to the Lateran, comprising what ancient Rome has to offer most interesting on the Aventine, Caelian, and Palatine Hills. On Friday he drove to Veil, accompanied by Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and Mr. Pentland, besides the usual members of his suite. After visiting the citadel and other scattered objects of interest in that most forlorn of ancient cities, the party lunched under the trees that have long since resumed their dominion over extinct Etruscan palaces and temples. On Saturday his Royal Highness went, under the guidance of Mr. Gibson, to visit some *studii*, amongst which were those of Mr. Penry Williams, the painter; and the sculptors, Messrs. Gott and Gately.

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The mail-packet *Athens*, Commander Strutt, arrived at Plymouth on Sunday afternoon. Her dates are, Cape of Good Hope, January 21; St. Helena, January 30; and Ascension, February 3. The trade of the colony continues prosperous. The election for the House of Assembly at Cape Town terminated in favour of J. D. Thompson, S. Solomon, M. J. Louis, and P. J. Kotze. Arrangements are nearly completed for commencing the railroad from Cape Town to Wellington. The Government selection of Fort Knokke as a terminus being objected to, another survey was to be made. Great dissatisfaction is expressed at the inactivity of the Cape Immigration Commissioners in England. The free state is peaceful. British Caffraria is being gradually settled down by farmers from the eastern districts and German immigrants. A bitter quarrel of two years' duration between the Council and the Governor of Natal has come to a crisis. The Council refused to pass the estimates, and was dissolved. The Governor is accused of being too lenient to the natives, and the colonists of being tyrannical.

WILLS.—The will and codicil of the Right Hon. George Warwick Poltimore, of Poltimore and Court Hall, Devon, and of Grosvenor-square, was proved in London on the 5th ult. by the Right Hon. Augustus Frederick George Warwick, Baron Poltimore, the son, and one of the executors. Power reserved to the Right Hon. Caroline Lady Poltimore, the relict; the Hon. and Rev. John Fortescue, M.A., Rector of Poltimore; and William Henry Domville, Esq., of New-square, Lincoln's-inn, the other executors. Personalty £70,000. All jewels are bequeathed to Lady Poltimore for her absolute use; and all funded property (not disposed of by deed of gift) is left to her Ladyship for life, as well as the freehold at Huxham, and the house in Grosvenor-square, with the furniture; and at her decease to Lord Poltimore, to whom is bequeathed the estates and mansions of Poltimore and Court Hall, who is appointed the residuary legatee. The will was made in 1857, and the codicil in October, 1858.

The will of Sir John Potter, M.P., late Mayor of Manchester, was proved in London by the executors, Thomas Bayley Potter, Esq., the brother; Thomas Fairbairn and Ellis Cunliffe, Esqrs. Personalty £70,000. He has left two sums of £2500 each to be invested for the benefit of his two sisters and their issue; and leaves the real estate, together with the residue of his personality, to his brother, Thomas Bayley Potter. The will was written on one sheet of demy paper, the end of which was cut off below the signatures of the testator and the witnesses. The will was made on the 18th of January, 1843, and was re-dated and re-executed on the 11th of November, 1857, an affidavit as to the condition of the will at the time of the re-execution being made by one of the executors and the two subscribing witnesses thereto. The testator died at Beech House, Pendleton, on the 25th of October, 1853.—The will of Sir John Salusbury Pizzol Salusbury, Knight of Brynbellia, Flintshire, and of Cheltenham, was proved in London on the 14th ult. by the Rev. George Augustus Salusbury, the son, and one of the executors; the other executor, John William Harden, Esq., the son-in-law, having renounced the grant. He has bequeathed to his eldest son the family pictures which adorn the freehold mansion. To his son Captain Frederick Octavius Salusbury he leaves a book he much valued, which was sent to him (the testator, by his son Frederick) from the siege at Lucknow, containing the photographs of the King of Lucknow and his wives. The residue of his personality to be divided equally among his younger children. The will is dated the 10th of December, 1858. The testator died at Cheltenham on the 18th of December, 1858.—We have been requested to supply an omission in our notice last week of the will of Sir Joseph Bailey, Bart. The deceased (who died on the 20th of November) left Lady Bailey £3000 a year, with the town and a country residence.

The experiment at the Houses of Parliament by M. Szerelmey, for silicating the stone, so as to arrest the decay visibly spreading on the external walls, is accepted by the authorities on the spot as successful. An insoluble petrified substance appears to fill up the pores sufficiently to repel heat, frost, and damp; and the stone is converted into a solid of such adamantine hardness, that no chemical agents affect it.

THE COURT.

On Saturday last the Queen and the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Princesses Alice and Helena, paid a visit to the Photographic Institution in Suffolk-street. The Prince afterwards went to the Trinity House on Tower-hill. The Royal dinner-party in the evening included the Princess Alice, the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, the Saracian Minister, the Marquis d'Azeglio; the Netherlands Minister Baron Beutlick; Viscount and Viscountess Torrington, Viscount Newport, Lord and Lady Overstone, Lady Raglan, the Right Hon. Spencer and Mrs. Walpole, the Right Hon. Sir George C. and Lady Theresa Lewis, and Major and the Hon. Mrs. Loyd Lindsay.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Consort, the Princesses Alice, Helena, and Louisa, the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the private chapel, Buckingham Palace. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor officiated.

On Monday the Duke of Cambridge visited the Queen. The Judge Advocate-General had also an audience of her Majesty, and submitted the proceedings of some courts-martial. In the afternoon the Queen and the Prince Consort took a drive in the parks, accompanied by the Princesses Alice and Helena. In the evening her Majesty and his Royal Highness, with the Princess Alice, honoured the Olympic Theatre with their presence.

On Tuesday the Queen and the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Princesses Alice and Louisa, took a drive in the parks. In the evening her Majesty and his Royal Highness honoured the English Opera at Covent Garden Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday the Queen held her second levée this season. The Royal dinner-party in the evening included the Princess Alice, the Duchess of Manchester, the Russian Minister, Baron Brunnow; the Resident Minister for the Hanse Towns and Madame Rieker; the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, the Earl of Westmoreland, the Earl and Countess Grey, the Earl and Countess of Durham, Lord John Manners, Lord and Lady de Tabley, the Hon. C. A. Murray, and General Sir Howard Douglas.

On Thursday the Queen held a Privy Council at Buckingham Palace, at which Mr. Walpole and Mr. Henley resigned office; and Mr. Sotherton Estcourt, the Earl of March, and the Earl of Donoughmore assumed their new offices of the Administration. In the evening the Queen and Prince Consort, accompanied by the Princess Alice, dined with the Dukes of Cambridge, at her residence in St. James's Palace. The party comprised the Princess Mary, the Duke of Cambridge, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl of Derby, the Earl of Clarendon, and Major-General the Right Hon. J. Peel. The Duke and Duchess d'Aumale joined the Royal circle in the evening. A select party had also the honour of receiving invitations.

THE LEVEE.

The Queen held her second levée this season in St. James's Palace on Wednesday. The Queen and Prince Consort, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, arrived from Buckingham Palace, escorted by a detachment of the Royal Horse Guards, and were received by the great officers of State. The Duke of Cambridge attended the levée.

The Earl of Derby had an audience of her Majesty.

The Earl of Haddington had an audience of the Queen, and delivered to her Majesty the Ensigns of the Order of the Thistle, worn by the late Earl of Haddington.

Captain Charles Fellowes, Royal Navy, had an audience of the Queen, and delivered to her Majesty an Imperial Chinese flag taken from Commissioner Yeh's house at Canton.

The Queen and Prince Consort entered the Throne-room attended by the Duchess of Manchester, Mistress of the Robes; the Countess of Caledon, Lady in Waiting; the Marquis of Exeter, K.G., Lord Steward; the Duke of Beaufort, Master of the Horse; Viscount Newport, Vice-Chamberlain, and the other lords and ladies of the household. The Queen wore a train of white silk, brocaded in wreaths, and bunches of flowers in green, red, and gold, trimmed with white blonde and ruches of green satin ribbon. The petticoat white satin, trimmed with white blonde and ruches of white satin ribbon. Head-dress, a diadem of emeralds and diamonds.

The foreign Ambassadors and Ministers having been first introduced, several presentations took place in the diplomatic circle. The general circle was very numerous attended, and about 200 gentlemen were presented to the Queen.

At the Levee the Hon. Mr. John Baker, member of the Legislative Council of South Australia, accompanied by Captain Charles Start, Lieutenant George F. Dashwood, R.N., Dr. B. Archer Kent, and Mr. Frederick H. Dutton, presented an address to her Majesty from the Legislative Council of South Australia, on the marriage of her Royal Highness the Princess Royal. Mr. Baker and Lieutenant Dashwood were presented by Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton.

COURT ARRANGEMENTS.

The following official announcements have been issued from the Lord Chamberlain's Office:—"Her Majesty will hold a Levee at St. James's Palace, at two o'clock, on Wednesday, April 6. Her Majesty will also hold a Drawingroom at St. James's Palace, on Thursday, April 14, at two o'clock."

THE PRINCESS FREDERICK WILLIAM.

Lord Raglan, Lord in Waiting to the Queen, and Captain the Honourable Dudley de Ros, Equerry to the Prince Consort, have left London for Berlin, in order to be present on behalf of her Majesty and his Royal Highness at the christening of the infant Prussian Prince, which is fixed to take place to-day (Saturday).

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary honoured the Strand Theatre with their presence on Wednesday evening.

RECEPTION OF THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS NAPOLEON AT THE HOTEL DE VILLE.

WHATEVER may have been the general opinion with regard to the nature of the reception met with by the Princess on her entry into Paris immediately after her nuptials, the municipal authorities of the French capital were determined that no doubt should be entertained as to the warmth of their attachment to the newly-married couple, and their approbation of the Imperial alliance with the ancient house of Savoy. The ball given in their honour at the Hôtel de Ville on the 14th of February was certainly in all respects one of the most splendid, if not the most splendid, of the multitude of fairy-like fêtes of which the Parisian Mansion House has been the scene. It is thought by many to have surpassed in magnificence of decoration the ball which was given there in honour of the visit of Queen Victoria to Paris in 1855. It appeared as though fairy-fingers had been at work in the preparations; for, in gazing on the luxuriant hangings, the varied illuminations, the jetting fountains, and the lovely flowers, which realised the idea of a spring-time in winter, it seemed almost impossible that such a beautiful spectacle could have been improvised in so short a time, the intention of giving the ball and concert having only been made known eight days beforehand.

The Imperial guests arrived at about eleven o'clock, and were received in the Court of Louis XIV., at the foot of the staircase, by the Prefect of the Seine, surrounded by the members of the Municipal Council and their ladies. It is the ceremony of the Reception which is represented in our Illustration.

There is no need here for farther description of this very charming fête, the details of which have already been duly chronicled in the columns of our Journal.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CALABRIA.

THE Royal personages to whose portraits this article is attached are the Duke and Duchess of Calabria. His Royal Highness is the Hereditary Prince of the Two Sicilies, Duke of Calabria, D. Francesco Maria Leopoldo, eldest son of the reigning Sovereign Ferdinand II. and his first wife, Maria Christina of Savoy, daughter of the deceased King Victor of Sardinia. His Royal Highness was born on the 13th of January, 1836.

Her Royal Highness is the Princess Sophia Amalia, sixth daughter of their Royal Highnesses Maximilian Joseph, Duke in Bavaria, and of Louisa Wilhelmina his wife, aunt of the reigning King of Bavaria, Maximilian II., and was born Oct. 4, 1841. The marriage of their Royal Highnesses has long been the subject of diplomatic discussion between the two Courts; but the difficulties, whatever they were, having been surmounted, a solemn demand was made for the hand of the Princess on the 22nd of December last by Count Ludolf, Charge d'Affaires of the King of the Two Sicilies. With great ceremony his Excellency was conducted to the Royal Palace in Munich; and by order of his Majesty was shortly afterwards introduced into the throne-room, where the King, surrounded by the officers of his Court, awaited the arrival of the Minister. The Attaché of the Legation, Signor Bianchini, carried the portrait of his Royal Highness the Duke of Calabria on a velvet cushion. Count Ludolf having made a short address, presented the Royal letter containing the demand for the hand of the Princess to his Majesty, who consigned it to the Minister of State of the Royal household who made a suitable reply. The Master of the Ceremonies then introduced into the Hall of Audience the Duke Maximilian and



THE DUCHESS OF CALABRIA.

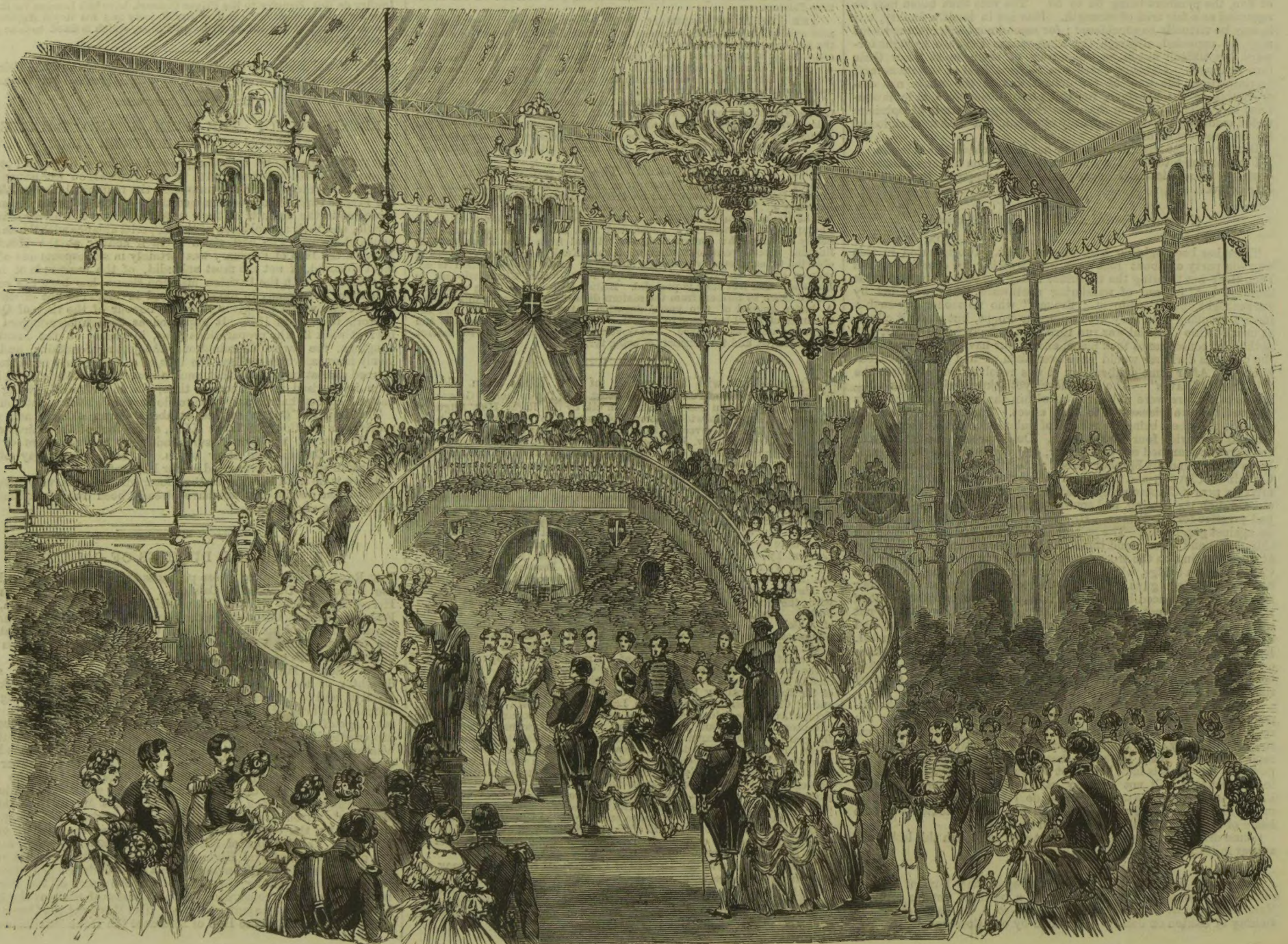


THE DUKE OF CALABRIA, HEIR APPARENT TO THE KINGDOM OF THE TWO SICILIES.

the Duchess, his wife, and their daughter, the Princess Maria. Count Ludolf also addressed to them a demand for the hand of the Princess; and the Minister of State replied, giving the consent of his Majesty and of the parents of the lady. The Princess then advancing and bowing to his Majesty, and afterwards to her Royal father and mother, also gave her assent. Count Ludolf then presented the portrait of the Hereditary Prince of the Two Sicilies to the Princess. Thus ended the act of demand. On the 8th of January the marriage of their Royal Highnesses was celebrated at

nine o'clock in the evening in the Royal Chapel in Munich, his Royal Highness the Duke of Calabria being represented by Prince Luitpold of Bavaria. On the following day the diplomatic body were admitted to pay their respects to her Royal Highness the Duchess of Calabria; and in the evening there was a grand fête in the theatre. On Monday, the 10th, there was a reception for the nobility; on Tuesday, the 11th, his Majesty the King of Bavaria gave a grand Court ball; and on Thursday, the 13th, the Princess left Salzburg, and the following day

for Lintz, where she was met by her sister, the Empress of Austria, who would remain with her until she embarked at Trieste for Manfredonia. Most unwillingly would we cast a shadow over the joy of the youthful pair, or utter one word of evil omen on this festive occasion. All happiness and prosperity attend them! May his Royal Highness early acquire a deep sense of the great duties imposed upon him, and labour to deserve a nation's gratitude and love by unwearying efforts to advance the material and social interests of his subjects!



THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS NAPOLEON AT THE HOTEL DE VILLE: RECEPTION OF THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES AT THE COURT OF LOUIS XIV.—SEE PRECEDING PAGE.



TESTIMONIAL TO MR. COX, EDITOR OF THE "LAW TIMES."

TESTIMONIAL TO THE EDITOR OF THE "LAW TIMES."
In this Journal appeared, a week or two since, an account of the presentation of a piece of plate by the solicitors of England and Wales to Mr. Cox, the editor of the *Law Times*, in acknowledgment of his valuable services to the profession. We have now the pleasure of engraving the testimonial. It is a large silver centrepiece, consist-

ing of a richly-chased vase standing on a square plinth, with four panels for the inscription and armorial bearings. It is supported by four heraldic horses in frosted silver. The inscription is as follows:—

The Testimonial of the Solicitors of England and Wales to Edward William Cox, Esq., presented in recognition of his unwearied and successful endeavours, as editor of the *Law Times*, to promote the mental, moral, and social advancement of their branch of the Legal Profession, 1858.

This artistic piece of metalwork was designed and manufactured by Mr. Metcalf Hopgood, of Bishopsgate-street.

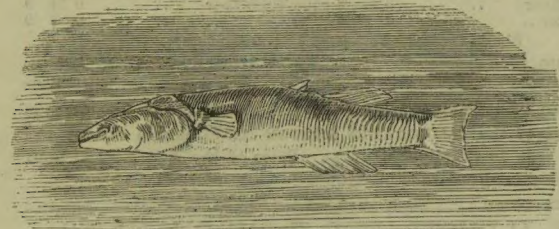
THE HISTORIAN PRESCOTT.

The public have just experienced an irreparable loss in the death of the great historian William Hickling Prescott, a name that will go to posterity side by side with those of Gibbon and Hume, Robertson and Lingard.

THE LATE MR. PRESCOTT, THE HISTORIAN.



"There is no spot on this earth," says the *Boston Courier*, "where the English language is spoken—indeed, no one where letters are valued—in which this intelligence will not fall with a saddening weight upon the heart. He died suddenly, in the prime of life, with all his faculties about him, in the midst of unfinished labours and loving friends. We can hardly feel that we shall no longer see that fine and cordial face, or again be cheered by his warm-hearted greeting." About a year since Mr. Prescott had a slight stroke of paralysis, which, however, soon yielded to medical treatment, and for many months past he seemed in excellent health and spirits. But at half-past twelve o'clock on the 28th of January, while apparently in his usual health, he was stricken with apoplexy while taking a bath, and at



EYELESS FISH IN THE MAMMOTH CAVE.



THE MAELSTROM, IN THE MAMMOTH CAVE, KENTUCKY.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

two o'clock he breathed his last. Mr. Prescott belonged to a New England family of high repute. His grandfather, Col. William Prescott, commanded the American forces at the battle of Bunker's Hill. His father, William Prescott, more generally known and addressed as Judge Prescott, was a lawyer in very large practice for a great many years, and a very acute, successful, and learned jurist. The Judge's wife, Prescott's mother, was a daughter of Thomas Hicking, who for a long period was United States' Consul at the Azores. Prescott was born in Salem, Massachusetts, on the 4th of May, 1796, and resided there until his father's removal to Boston, when he himself was twelve years old. He entered Harvard College in 1811, and graduated in 1814. While in college he was deprived by an accident of the use of one eye, and the sight of the other was so impaired as to prevent him from engaging in any occupation in which the constant use of that organ might be necessary. He early determined to devote himself to a life of literature. Soon after leaving college he went to Europe, and spent two years in an extended journey through England, France, and Italy; and at the end of it returned home in excellent general health, but with no great improvement in the state of his eyes. His marriage to Miss Susan Amory of Boston soon after took place, and from this period he passed his days in diligent devotion to those literary pursuits which were to make him the best historian of his age. He gave himself ten years to prepare for his great task. He then selected his first subject, and took ten years more to produce it. It was his "History of Ferdinand and Isabella." He published it in 1839, simultaneously in London and Boston. Its success on both sides of the Atlantic was instantaneous and immense. It has since run through edition after edition, and has been translated into almost every language in Europe. This work he composed while compelled to live in a darkened room. His sight had slightly improved when he brought out his second famous production, "The Conquest of Mexico," the celebrity of which has even exceeded that of his "Ferdinand and Isabella." Its author was admitted by invitation to many of the distinguished academies of Europe, and he was elected a member of the French Institute. His "Conquest of Peru," an equally prosperous book, appeared in 1847. A volume of interesting collected miscellanies followed, and then were published the first and second volumes of his admirable "History of Philip II.," now, alas, never to be completed by him. The third volume, long looked for, came out only the other day.

The American papers, which bring us long and eulogistic obituary articles on their great historian, notice the coincidence that at the very time of his death the English journals were just reaching the United States, containing the most unqualified praise of this charming work. Mr. Prescott is as well known, and as highly esteemed, abroad as at home. During his visit to England, in 1850, the highest attention was paid him socially, and the honorary degree of Doctor of Civil Law was conferred upon him by the University of Oxford. Among the many noble and beautiful things that have been written and spoken of Mr. Prescott since his death, we have seen nothing more earnest, eloquent, or appropriate than the remarks of the Hon. Geo. Bancroft, a brother historian, at a meeting of the New York Historical Society. Irving, Prescott, and Bancroft, the three great American authors who have carried the art of writing the English language to the highest perfection, have established a cosmopolitan reputation; and "Irving's Washington," "Prescott's Ferdinand and Isabella," and "Bancroft's United States" are justly entitled to rank among the monumental productions of the age. It is a gratifying fact to add that each of these eminent writers is highly appreciated by his contemporaries throughout the literary world, and liberally paid and praised while living for his works. Mr. Prescott's annual income from his copyrights was not less than £5000 a year; while both Irving and Bancroft are in the enjoyment of literary fortunes as well as contemporaneous fame.

Mr. Prescott died in the midst of his labours and in the ripeness of his faculties. At the age of sixty-three he is suddenly called away, leaving his pen wet with ink and his last line unfinished. His death is universally lamented. In the beautiful words of his countryman, Halleck—

None knew him but to love him;
None named him but to praise.

We are glad to learn that, the material being collected, the "History of Philip II.," will be completed by Mr. John Foster Kirk, who has long been employed as secretary, translator, and amanuensis to the great historian; and whose fine taste, thorough scholarship, and intimate knowledge of the author's designs will enable him to finish the structure so nobly begun; as the great architect who planned, could not complete, the beautiful dome of St. Peter's. Mr. Prescott leaves a widow, one son, and two daughters. His choice and costly library is bequeathed to his *alma mater*, Harvard University, at Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The Portrait of Mr. Prescott in to-day's ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS is from a photograph taken a year ago in Boston. It is considered an excellent likeness. No picture can do full justice to his pleasant face and beautiful smile; and no words can describe the cordial, gentle, yet dignified manners of the most accomplished and most conscientious historian of the age.

THE MAMMOTH CAVE, KENTUCKY.

A VIEW from the Mammoth Cave, Kentucky, which we present to our readers to-day was sketched from the Panorama of America Scenery and Objects of Interest now exhibiting at the Gallery of Illustration, Regent-street. The Mammoth Cave is situated between the cities of Louisville and Nashville, and about ninety miles from each. The cave is many miles in extent, and descends more than 600 feet below the surface of the earth. It abounds in stalactite and stalagmite formations of every conceivable kind. A descent of 30 feet, by stone steps, and an advance of 150 feet inward, bring the visitor to the door, in a solid stone wall which blocks up the entrance to the cave. A narrow passage leads to the great vestibule, or antechamber, an oval hall 200 by 150 feet, and 50 feet high. Two passages of 100 feet in width open into it; and the whole is supported without a single column. This chamber was used by the races of yore as a cemetery, judging from the bones, of a gigantic size, which are discovered. A hundred feet above your head you catch a fitful glimpse of the dark, grey ceiling; and heavy buttresses, apparently bending under the superincumbent weight, project their enormous masses from the shadowy wall. In Audubon Avenue, leading from the hall, is a deep well of pure spring water, surrounded by stalagmite columns, from the floor to the roof. The Little Bat-room contains a pit 280 feet deep, and is the resort of myriads of bats. The Grand Gallery is a vast tunnel, many miles long, and 50 feet wide. At the end of the first quarter of a mile are the Kentucky Cliffs, and the church, 100 feet in diameter and 63 feet high. A natural pupil and organ-loft are not wanting; and in this temple of nature religious services have frequently been performed. The Gothic Avenue, reached by a flight of stairs, is 40 feet wide, 15 feet high, and two miles long. Mummies have been discovered here, which have been the subject of curious study to science. On the walls of the Register-rooms are inscribed thousands of names. The Gothic chapel, when illuminated with lamps, inspires the beholder with feelings of solemnity and awe. At the foot of the Devil's Arm-chair is a small basin of sulphur-water. Then there is the Breastwork, the Elephant's Head, Lover's Leap, Gatewood's Dining-table, the Cooling-tub, a basin (six feet wide and three feet deep) of the purest water; Napoleon's Dome, &c. The Ball-room contains an orchestra, fifteen feet high, near which is a row of cabins for consumptive patients, the atmosphere being always temperate and pure. The Star-chamber presents an optical illusion. In looking up the spectator seems to see the firmament itself studded with stars, and, afar off, a comet with a bright tail. The temple is an immense vault, covering an area of two acres, and surmounted by a single dome of solid rock 120 feet high. It rivals the celebrated Grotto of Antiparos. In the middle of the dome is a mound of rocks, rising on one side nearly to the top, very steep, and forming what is called the mountain. A short distance on the left is a steep precipice, over which you can look down by the aid of torches upon a broad black sheet of water, eighty feet below, called the Dead Sea. The Maelstrom, nine miles from the entrance of the Mammoth Cave, is the subject selected by our artist for illustration. Thousands have looked with awe into this pit, but only one person has been known to have explored its mysteries. Mr. Prentice, of Louisville, Kentucky, explored the depths of the Maelstrom; but we need not give the particulars, as the "thrilling narrative" was recorded not long ago in this Journal.

The waters of the Mammoth Cave are tenanted by the celebrated *eyeless fish*, of which we give an engraving. This fish is known to naturalists under the name of *Amblyopsis pelucida*. It is a small fish, being only three or four inches in length, of a white, or rather pale colour, some specimens being almost semi-transparent. The eyes are covered by an opaque skin, or are entirely absent. The natural conclusion is, that from the dark and gloomy habitat of this singular fish, the power of vision being unnecessary, Providence, which has made nothing in vain, but which adapts every living creature to the mode of life assigned to it, has seen fit to withhold a faculty which could serve no purpose in the economy of its being.

All the British Bank directors are now at liberty. The sentence of one year's imprisonment which was passed on Edward Esdaile, one of the directors, and Hugh James Cameron, the manager, expired last Saturday.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, March 6.—Quinquagesima. Shrove Sunday.
MONDAY, 7.—Perpetua.
TUESDAY, 8.—Shrove Tuesday.
WEDNESDAY, 9.—Ash Wednesday.
THURSDAY, 10.—Queen Victoria married, 1840.
FRIDAY, 11.—Baltic Fleet reviewed, 1854.
SATURDAY, 12.—St. Gregory. Moon's 1st quarter, 4h. 39m., a.m.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 12, 1859.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
3 14	3 27	3 42	3 57	4 12	4 28	4 44
4 59	5 16	5 34	5 53	6 15	6 35	7 0

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—Under the Management of Miss LOUISA PYNE and Mr. W. HARRISON.—Last Week but one of the Royal English Opera performances this Season. No performance on Wednesday, the 9th inst. (Ash Wednesday). The last Five Nights of the Pantomime.—*Men's*, March 7, and Saturday, March 12, *THE DAUGHTER OF THE REGIMENT*: Messrs. G. Honey, Corri, and W. Harrison; Miss Susan Pyne, and Miss Louisa Pyne. Tuesday, March 8, and Thursday, 10, *SATANELLA*: Messrs. Weiss, G. Honey, St. Albyn, H. Corri, and W. Harrison; Miss Rebecca Isaac, Susan Pyne, and Louisa Pyne. Friday, 11, last time but one, *THE ROSE OF CASTILE*: Messrs. Weiss, G. Honey, St. Albyn, Bartleman, and W. Harrison; Miss Susan Pyne, Morell, and Louisa Pyne. To conclude each evening with *LITTLE RED RIDING-HOOD*: Messrs. W. H. Payne, H. Payne, F. Payne, Barnes; Miss Clara Morgan, Madlles, Morlaich and Pasquale. Doors open at Half-past Six, commence at Seven. Private Boxes, £1 1s. to £3 3s.; Stalls, 7s.; Dress Circles, 5s.; Amphitheatre Stalls, 3s. and 2s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Amphitheatre, 1s.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—Under the Management of Miss LOUISA PYNE and Mr. W. HARRISON.—MONDAY, MARCH 14, for the BENEFIT of Mr. W. HARRISON (the last Night but five of the season), on which occasion will be performed (for the first time at this Theatre) the English version of Flotow's popular Opera of *MARTHA*: Miss Louisa Pyne, Miss Susan Pyne, Mr. E. Glover, Mr. G. Honey, Mr. H. Corri, and Mr. W. Harrison. First time, a new Ballet of Action, *ROBERT AND BERTRAND*: Mr. W. H. Payne, H. Payne, F. Payne, Clara Morgan, Madlles, Morlaich, and Pasquale. Private Boxes, £1 1s. to £3 3s.; Stalls, 7s.; Dress Circles, 5s.; Amphitheatre Stalls, 3s. and 2s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Amphitheatre, 1s. Tickets and places all taken at the Box Office, of Mr. Parsons, without any charge for booking.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Monday, Last Night but Three of the Engagement of Miss AMY SEDGWICK.—To Commence at Seven with the new drama of *THE YOUNG MOHR*. Mr. Buckstone, Miss Emily Allen (her fourth appearance). After which, to commence at Eight, and for this night only, *THE LOVE CHASE*: Constance, Miss Amy Sedgwick. Concluding with *JACK'S RETURN FROM CANTON*. On Tuesday (last time but two), *AN UNEQUAL MATCH*; and Last Night but Two of the Pantomime of *UNDINE*. Wednesday, being Ash Wednesday, No Performance. Thursday and Friday, *AN UNEQUAL MATCH*, and positively the Last Two Nights of the Pantomime. Saturday, March the 12th, Miss Amy Sedgwick's BENEFIT and Last Appearance, when will be produced (never acted) a new and original Comedy, entitled *THE WORLD AND THE STAGE*, in which she will sustain an original character.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—FAREWELL SEASON of Mr. CHARLES KEAN as MANAGER.—Last week but one of the Pantomime.—The Public is respectfully informed that Mr. and Mrs. C. Kean's Annual Benefit will take place on Monday March the 28th, when will be produced the last Shakespearean revival under the existing management. The following are the intermediate arrangements:—The 23rd, on Monday, March the 7th; on Monday, the 14th; and (last time) on Wednesday, the 21st. LOUIS XI., on Tuesday, March the 8th; on Wednesday, the 15th; on Monday, the 21st; and (last time) on Friday, the 25th. MACBETH, on Thursday, March the 10th; and on Thursday (last time), the 17th. A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, on Friday, March the 11th; on Tuesday, the 18th; on Friday, the 18th; on Tuesday, the 22nd; and on Saturday, the 24th. THE OCEANIC BROTHERS, on Saturday, March the 12th; on Sunday, the 13th; with (last time) A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM on Tuesday and Thursday, the 22nd and 24th. All the plays will be re-produced, with the exception, perhaps, of one or two representations only towards the termination of the Management in the latter part of the Month of July.

ROYAL STRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Directress, MISS SWANBOROUGH.—On Monday and during the week, MATRIMONIAL PROSPECTURES, by Messrs. W. H. Swanborough, H. J. Turner; Madames Selby, Tuttle, and Charlotte Saunders. KENILWORTH; or, Ye Queens, ye Earls, ye Maydenes. To conclude with, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, *THE BONNIE FISHERIE*; and on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, *THE LITTLE SAVAGE*. Commence at Seven.

ASTLEY'S AMPHITHEATRE.—MONDAY, and during the Week (Ash Wednesday excepted), an entirely New Spectacle, entitled *THE 100 CUIRASSIERS*. To be followed by Scenes in the Circle, introducing Miss Kate Cooke, Miss Emily Cooke, Madame Blanche, Madame Bridges, Madlle. Fleurette, and Madame Francisco. To conclude with a Favourite Farce.

STANDARD THEATRE.—MR. KEAN BUCHANAN will appear every evening next week, in conjunction with Miss AGNES KEMBLE, in *HAMLET*, *OTHELLO*, *MACBETH*, &c. To conclude with *THE FORTY THIEVES*. On Ash-Wednesday a GRAND CONCERT, and other Entertainments.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—FRIDAY next, MARCH 11, will be again performed Handel's *SOLOMON*. The Principal Vocalists: Madame Catherine Hayes, Miss Dalby, Madame Weiss, Mr. Montem Smith, and Mr. Thomas. Tickets, 3s. and 1s. 6d. each, at the Society's Office, No. 6, in Exeter Hall. Haydn's Oration, *THE SEASONS*, is unavoidably postponed for the present.

MUSICAL UNION SOIREE, ST. JAMES'S HALL.—TUESDAY, MARCH 8. Quintet, Mozart; Grand Trio in B flat, Rubinstein; Quartet, Haydn; Duet, G minor, Piano and Violoncello, Beethoven; Pensée, Egitto, Violin and Piano, Heller and Ernst; Vocal Music by the Orpheus Glee Union of eight Professors. Executants—Sainton, Godfré, Shreurs, Doyle, and Platti. Pianist, Paner. Subscription for the Series of three Soirees, One Guinea, and for each remaining Soiree: Three Guineas. For four persons, Plan of Balcony, with reserved places at Five Shillings each, to be seen at Oliver's, Old Bond-street. All particulars to be had of Cramer and Co., Chappell and Co., and by letter addressed to J. ELLA, Director.

BEETHOVEN.—Mr. Sims Reeves, M. Wieniawski, and Mr. Charles Hallé, on MONDAY EVENING next, MARCH 7, at the MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS, ST. JAMES'S HALL, on which occasion the programme will be devoted to the works of Beethoven. For full particulars see programme. Sofa Stalls, 5s.; Reserved Seats (Balcony), 3s.; Unreserved, 1s.; at the Hall, 2s. Piccadilly; Keith, Prowse, and Co.'s; Cramer and Co.'s; Hammond's; and Chappell and Co.'s, 50, New Bond-street.—Ash Wednesday the Mozart Selection will be repeated.

MOZART.—Miss Arabella Goddard, Mr. Sims Reeves, and M. Sainton, on ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9.—In compliance with the very general demand, the Mozart Selection, which afforded so much satisfaction at the MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS on February 21, will be repeated on this occasion. Sofa Stalls, 5s.; Reserved Seats (Balcony), 3s.; Unreserved, 1s.; at the Hall, 2s. Piccadilly; Keith, Prowse, and Co.'s; Cramer and Co.'s; Hammond's; and Chappell and Co.'s, 50, New Bond-street.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. PATRON—H. R. HIGHNESS THE PRINCE CONSORT. Last Two Weeks of Signor Buono Core, the wonderful Italian Salamander. Every Evening at Eight. Entirely New and Historic Lecture, illustrating the Beauty of Gay's "Beggars Opera." The Vocal Gems will be sung by Miss Boden, Mr. Lennox Horne, and Mr. Thorpe Feed. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at Three; and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at Eight o'clock. Dissolving Views of Don Quixote. Lectures on Chemistry, Natural Philosophy, The Atlas Chandelier, Moule's Patent Chemical Light, Music, Mr. Twining's Museum, &c. Madrigals, &c., by the St. George's Choir. MANAGING DIRECTOR.—R. I. LONGBOTTOM, Esq.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S CHINA is Open Every Evening (including Saturday) at Eight; and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday Afternoons at Three o'clock. Stalls, numbered and reserved, which can be taken in advance from the plan at the EGYPTIAN HALL, every day, from Eleven to Five, without any extra charge, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.

MR. and Mrs. HOWARD PAUL at the ST. JAMES'S HALL Every Night (Saturday excepted), in their Comic and Musical PATCHWORK, the most brilliant and varied Entertainment of the day. The wonderful "Living Photograph" of Mr. Sims Reeves at each representation. Morning Performances on Tuesdays and Saturdays at Three. Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Commence at Eight.

SIXTH YEAR OF THE PRESENT ENTERTAINMENT.
THE SISTERS SOPHIA and ANNIE, in their Original Entertainment, entitled *SKETCHES FROM NATURE*, will appear at NEW SWINDON, March 7; MILKSHUM, 8; TROWBRIDGE, 10; BRISTOL, 11.

BARNUM.—Positively the Last Time at ST. JAMES'S HALL, SATURDAY, MARCH 12. In consequence of Provincial Engagements, Mr. P. T. BARNUM will give, as above, his last illustrated Entertainment on MONEY-MAKING, for the Last Time in ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Open at 7, commence at 8. Carriages at a Quarter to 10. Stalls, 3s.; Balcony, 2s.; Body of the Hall and Gallery, 1s. Places secured without extra charge at Chappell's, Mitchell's, Cramer and Beale's, Jullien's, Keith's, 43, Cheapside; and at the Hall. Mr. Barnum will give his Entertainment at Bath, morning and evening, on March 5; Salisbury, 7; Southampton, 8; Portsea, 9; Hastings, 10; Brighton, 11; London, 12; and Sheffield, 23.

CHOIR BENEVOLENT FUND.—A Full Choral Meeting of Cathedral and Collegiate Choirs will be held in aid of its Funds, by permission of the Dean and Chapter, under the Dome of ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, on TUESDAY, March 22, 1859, at Twelve o'clock. 7, Vincent-terrace, City-road, N. JAMES SHOURBRIDGE, Secretary.

MARYLEBONE LITERARY INSTITUTION, 17, Edwards-street, Portman-square.—ASH-WEDNESDAY, March 9, Mr. EDWIN THERSTONE, Author of "The Handwriting on the Wall," "The Fall of Nineveh," &c., will give a second Reading from his Unpublished Poem, "Israel in Egypt"; subjects, *THE RODS TURNED INTO SERPENTS*, and *THE PLAGUE OF BLOOD*. The Reading will commence at Eight exactly, and will occupy an hour and three quarters. Tickets, 3s. each, may be had in the Library.

MR. J. B. GOUGH will deliver ORATIONS in EXETER HALL on MONDAYS, 21st and 28th.

TO HOTEL-KEEPERS.
CHESTER QUEEN RAILWAY HOTEL (Limited).—The Directors are prepared to receive APPLICATIONS from persons desirous of becoming TENANTS of the QUEEN RAILWAY HOTEL at the CHESTER STATION. Information may be obtained by applying at their Office in Chester, or by letter addressed to the Secretary. It is particularly requested that no person will apply who has not been engaged in the Hotel-keeping business; who cannot give unexceptionable references; and who has not the command of capital sufficient for furnishing the Hotel and for carrying on an extensive business. By order E. L. JONES, Secretary.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—LECTURES DAILY, by J. H. PEPPER, Esq., on RAIN, RIVER, and SPRING WATER, illustrated by the Oxy-Hydrogen Microscope, showing the Live Aquatic Insects of the Norwegian Ponds. DISSOLVING VIEWS, illustrating the Alhambra Court of the Crystal Palace. One Shilling. During LENT Mr. Pepper will Lecture on ASTRONOMY and THE HOLY LAND.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Arrangements for Week ending Saturday, March 12.—Monday, open at Nine; Tuesday to Friday, open at Ten. Admission, One Shilling; Children under Twelve, Sixpence. Saturday, open at Ten. Fourteenth Winter Concert at Half-past Two. Admission, Half-a-Crown; One Shilling. Illustrated Lectures, Orchestral Band, and Great Organ daily. The Crystal Palace Art Union Works on view in the Sheffield Court. Subscription, One Guinea. Sunday, open at Half-past One to Shareholders gratuitously by tickets.

MADAME TUSSAUD'S EXHIBITION, at the Bazaar, Baker-street.—Characters of great interest at the present period—His Holiness the Pope, the Emperor Napoleon III., the Emperor of Austria, the King of Sardinia, the King of Naples, &c. Full-length models in appropriate costumes may be seen in the collection. Admission, 1s.; extra room, 6d. Open from 11 till dusk, and from 7 till 10.

EVENING STAR.—A SECOND EDITION is published Daily at Half past Four o'clock, which contains the Closing Prices of the Funds, and all intelligence up to the moment of going to press.

EVENING STAR.—Dispatched by Post the Evening of Publication, so as to be delivered in all parts of England on the following morning. Price 1d.; or stamped, 2d. Three Papers can be forwarded under One Stamp.

ARMY EXAMINATIONS.—Sandhurst Lodge, Queen's-road West, Regent's Park, N.W.—Thorough Preparation for Addiscombe, Woolwich, Sandhurst, or direct Commissions. More than 400 gentlemen have passed into the Army from this Establishment. Terms and references on application.

ARMORIAL BEARINGS.—No charge for Search.—Sketch and Description, 2s. 6d.; in colour, 5s.; Crest on seals or rings, 8s.; on dia, 7s. Solid gold, 18-carat, Hall-marked, sard, or bloodstone ring, engraved with crest, two guineas.—T. MORING (who has received the gold medal for engraving), 44, High Holborn, W.C. Illustrated Price-list post-free.

WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELLERY, PLATE, &c., the remaining Stock of the late Mr. Young, of 51, Princes-street, Leicester-square The Lease being sold. Messrs. DEBENHAM, STORR, and SONS are directed by the Executors to SELL by AUCTION, at their rooms, King-street, Covent-garden, on Wednesday, March 9, at 11, an assemblage of beautiful Jewellery, Gold Chains, Diamond Rings, Silver Watches of fine finish and other select and valuable items. On view from Saturday prior.

SOHO-SQUARE BAZAAR.—Governesses, Tutors, Companions, Superior School Teachers.—The well-known character of this old-established house offers the best security to families seeking English and Foreign Governesses with the highest testimonials in proof of educational ability. The Registry is in charge of a lady of great experience, and with distinct reference to religious qualifications.

CANCER HOSPITAL, FOUNDED 1851.—TREASURER.—W. L. FARTER, Esq., 66, Lincoln's-in-fields. BANKERS.—Messrs. Coutts and Co., Strand. The expenses are heavy. FIDUCIARY AID is earnestly solicited. Upwards of 400 patients are constantly under treatment. Secretary's Office, 167, Piccadilly. By order, W. J. COCKERELL, Secretary.

ART-UNION OF LONDON.—Subscription One Guinea.—Prizeholders select from the Public Exhibitions. Every Subscriber has a Chance of a valuable Prize, and an impression of a large and important Engraving by C. W. Sharpe, from the celebrated picture by W. P. Frith, R.A. (the property of her Majesty), "Life at the Sea-side," now ready for delivery. GEORGE GOWLIN, Honorary Secretary, 444, West Strand.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1859.

PUBLIC confidence in the maintenance of peace has not been wholly restored by the statements of Lord Malmesbury and Mr. Disraeli, or by Lord Palmerston's comments. Until war be declared, there is always a hope for peace, and this at the present moment is the condition of Europe. The Pope, under French coercion, has requested both France and Austria to withdraw their troops from his territory; and Austria, though loth, will be compelled to obey. The Pope and his subjects will thus be left face to face, to settle their differences as they may; and Austria, alarmed for Lombardy and Venice, will tighten her grip, and endeavour to crush and trample out the possibility of popular insurrection and Revolution.

It is just possible, though scarcely probable, that the ecclesiastics who surround the Pope and mould his plastic will to their own fancy, or passion, may inaugurate such reforms in the government of the Papal States as shall make the people content to bear yet a little longer with the Papacy as a temporal Power. But this is almost too much to hope. We shall not, we think, be accused of doing injustice to the Emperor of the French, if we assert our disbelief in the sincerity of his desire for the better government of the subjects of the Pope. Pius IX. and Cardinal Antonelli, if accused of misgovernment, or of repressing the natural desires of a people for some slight degree of rational and constitutional liberty, might arm themselves with an unanswerable *tu quoque*, and bid the too ardent reformer of the dominions of other people look at home, and "try his prentice hand" in his own realm before extending his sympathies to realms that owe him no allegiance. But the Napoleonic idea is, after all, a consistent one, and is not by any means so contradictory as it would appear if we could believe that the Emperor was really desirous that Italians should enjoy the liberty for which he thinks the French unfit. There is no such flaw in the argument or gap in the programme; and if the idea can be wrought out without kindling the flames of a mighty conflagration all over the Continent, the British people will have no sympathy either with the Papacy or with Austria.

The Emperor of the French is master of the situation, and he knows it. But, great as he is, there is a drag upon his movements. His people, having no free press to awaken their sympathies, flatter their pride, or lash up their enthusiasm, cling doggedly to peace. They want to wive and thrive, and to look after the shop. They are taxed to the uttermost *centime* they can bear; and there is a heavy accumulation of bills to pay, or to be converted into a permanent debt, the aggregate of which may well affright even so bold a man as the Emperor, or such clever financiers as M. Fould and M. de Morny. A great game is being played; and the evacuation of Rome and the Papal States is a decisive move in it. Time will show what the next will be. And whether it is war or peace which is intended at the Tuilleries neither Lord Malmesbury nor Lord Palmerston can tell, nor perhaps any man, except the inscrutable chief who is heir alike to the throne and to the ambition of the first Napoleon.

On the 12th day of last month the Oregon Territory became one of the sister States of the Union by a vote in the American House of Representatives of 114 to 103, the bill for its admission having passed the Senate on the 14th of May, 1858, by a vote of 36 to 16. There are now thirty-three States in the Confederation, five Territories, and the District of Columbia, besides three new Territories in the process of organisation—viz., Daotah, Arizona, and Jefferson. An organised Territory is treated as a minor until it reaches the population required by law (40,000) for the erection of a "sovereign and independent State," when it frames a Constitution, which it submits to Congress, and prays to be admitted into the sisterhood of States. When the local Constitution does not conflict with the Federal Constitution, of course there can be no legal or valid objection to the admission. In the case of Oregon there has been no objection raised on the question of Slavery; and the opposition in Congress seems to have arisen rather on party than on political or constitutional grounds. With the single exception of Kansas, Oregon has been the occasion of more noise than all the rest of the American Territories. A few years since the "boundary question" threatened serious difficulty between England and the United States; but the latter Government, after clamouring vociferously under the bullying cry of "54 deg. 40 min. or fight," very wisely subsided and settled down on 49 deg. And this, we trust, is the last we shall ever hear of "a threatening state of affairs" between the Mother and the Daughter Lands.

The new State of Oregon lies on the North Pacific Ocean, with a beautiful coast extending for nearly 500 miles, but with only one good harbour, and that at the mouth of the Columbia River, which, with its tributaries, waters the entire regions west of the Rocky Mountains, between the British possessions and California. The new-born State is twice as large as France, and its southern boundary is about in the latitude of Florence and Boston. In 1843 it contained only some four hundred white inhabitants, settled as graziers, hunters, and traffickers in the valley of Walla. Walla. The population now consists of about 50,000. This vast domain is rich in timber, in agricultural products, and in coal and gold mines. The climate is agreeable and beautiful, the mean temperature at the mouth of the Columbia River being 54 degrees. There is a line of steamers running regularly between San Francisco and the Columbia; and a tide of emigration is constantly pouring in and spreading over the virgin fields of "distant Oregon." Extra provision has been made for common-school education in the new State, two sections of land in each township being set apart for that purpose, which is double the amount appropriated in any other part of the United States.

The recent admission of Oregon into the Federal Union seems to have occasioned quite a jubilee in Washington. The President, the Vice-President, and the principal supporters of the bill were serenaded on the night of its passage, and both the President and the Vice-President made rather extravagant speeches on territorial expansion, the acquisition of Cuba, &c. But something must be pardoned in the language of men who are awakened from a sound sleep by a noisy, torch-lighted crowd exulting over a new-born sister State in the most exuberant "Yankee Doodle" fashion. The United States have now grown from thirteen to thirty-three commonwealths. Will they enlarge their flag or reduce the size of the stars? If we were disposed to be satirical, we might suggest that it would be well to omit some of the "stripes."

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

AT THE SOCIETY OF ARTS, on Wednesday week, a lecture was delivered "On the Library, Books, and Binding, particularly with reference to their Preservation and Restoration," by Mr. John Leighton, F.S.A. The paper was illustrated by a large collection of valuable books, skins, fabrics, restorations, microscopes, &c.

EXPLOSION OF GAS.—On Tuesday evening there was an explosion of gas on the premises of Messrs. Green, Stansby, and Green, Old Bond-street. The windows on the first and second floors were nearly all shattered to pieces, and the damage sustained by the building was considerable.

A requisition has been extensively signed calling upon the Lord Mayor to convene a public meeting of the citizens of London to express an opinion on the Government Reform Bill. Meetings for the same purpose in several parts of the metropolis—among them some open-air ones in the parks—are announced. The provinces, too, are stirring actively in the matter.

WHITTINGTON CLUB.—A ball was given on Tuesday night at the Whittington Club, by way of inaugurating the dining and refreshment department of the institution. There was a large attendance. Mr. Shury's band played a great number of quadrilles, polkas, waltzes, schottisches, redovas, varsovianas, cotillions, mazurkas, polka-mazurkas, and galops, in the course of the evening. The dancing lasted till past four.

ROYAL INFIRMARY FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—The 45th annual meeting of the governors of this institution was held on Monday at the London Tavern.—Mr. Teulon in the chair. The report stated that 2330 patients had been relieved during the past year. The aggregate number of patients admitted since the foundation of the charity exceeded 52,000, and the daily attendance was nearly 100. The expenditure had exceeded the income by £230.

MILLINERS' AND DRESSMAKERS' PROVIDENT AND BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.—On Monday the eleventh annual meeting of this institution was held at Willis's Rooms.—Mr. Stephen Lewis in the chair. Mr. Shuter, the hon. secretary, read the report, from which it appeared that during the past year thirteen members had been admitted. The institution consisted of 130 members, of whom 55 were life, and 75 annual subscribers. During the past year the gross receipts had been £788 16s. 8d. The expenses for the same period had been £620 14s. 11d.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.—Last week the births of 991 boys and 940 girls (in all 1940 children) were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1849-58 the average number was 1693. The total deaths registered in the metropolitan districts, which in the previous week were 1156, rose to 1226 in the week that ended last Saturday. In the ten years 1849-58, the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week, was 1223.—The number of deaths last week was 119 below the corrected average.

JOHN HUNTER'S COFFIN.—The coffins in the vaults of the church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields having been ordered to be deposited in the catacombs, and it being known that the remains of the immortal Hunter were in the vaults, a diligent search of several days was made for his coffin by Mr. Frank Buckland, of the Life Guards, a son of the late respected Dean of Westminster, and his exertions were crowned with success last week. The coffin was in No. 3 vault, under the church, at the bottom of many others, being, in fact, almost one of the last to be removed. It is in excellent preservation, the cloth only upon it having decayed in places. The handsome brass plate upon it is as perfect as when originally engraved: the coat of arms is unimpaired, and the inscription clear and distinct. It runs as follows:—"John Hunter, Esq., died October 16, 1793, aged 64 years."

FIRE AND LOSS OF LIFE.—A fire, attended with the most distressing results, took place in Marylebone on Saturday morning. The scene of the catastrophe was an eating-house in Great James-street, occupied by Mr. Reeves. After the cook and two children had been rescued, some one injudiciously burst open the front door. This had the double effect of setting fire to the machine and of increasing the strength of the conflagration which was raging within. The result was that the fire-escape conductor, who had Mrs. Reeves and her child in his arms, fell to the ground and sustained serious injuries. The child died at the hospital during the day. But this was not the worst of the calamity. Before further assistance could be rendered the whole of the building fell in, and occasioned the destruction of Mr. Reeves, three of his children, and the nurse.

SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE FINE ARTS.—On Tuesday evening the second *conversations* of the season of this society took place at the French Gallery, Pall-mall, and was numerously attended. Mr. Atkinson was called to the chair. Mr. H. Otley read a paper "On the Law of Copyright in Works of Art," which he said was in a most unsatisfactory state. The subject was one of the highest importance to art, involving as it did not only the question of the rewards due to artists, but affecting in some measure their reputation. Mr. Otley briefly reviewed the history of copyright in works of design in this country, touching incidentally on the laws of foreign countries on the subject, and concluded by urging upon all interested in the question the necessity of giving it their earnest consideration. A musical performance followed, commenced by Miss Hemming and Mr. W. Bollen Harrison, in a grand concertante duet for two pianos, on the airs from "Linda di Chamouni." The other performers were Miss Charlotte Paget, Miss Fanny Rowland, Miss Binckes, Mr. Wallworth, Mr. H. Graiff Nicholls, and Mr. H. Baumer, who all exerted themselves most satisfactorily, and were often warmly applauded. Mr. F. Berger was the accompanist. The room was decorated with pictures and other works of art, contributed for the occasion by the members and others.

PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIPWRECK.—At a meeting of the Royal National Life-boat Institution, held at its house, John-street, Adelphi, on Thursday, the silver medal of the institution was voted to Mr. John Ridge, chief officer of the Coast Guard at Cadgwith, on the Cornish coast; and £11 to several other men for their gallant and valuable services in rescuing thirteen out of thirty-one persons from the steamer *Csar*, which during stormy weather went to pieces off the Lizard, on the 22nd of January last. Rewards amounting to £42 15s. were also voted to the crews of the life-boats of the society and other parties for saving life from shipwreck. It was reported that life-boats were much wanted on the south coast of England. During the past month the institution had sent a new life-boat and carriage to Dundalk, where Lord Clermont had liberally caused a substantial house for their reception to be built. The Duke of Northumberland, President of the Institution, will take the chair at the annual meeting of the Society at the London Tavern on the 17th inst.

SOCIETY OF FOREIGNERS IN DISTRESS.—The annual meeting of this society, which is under the protection of her Majesty and the Prince Consort and several foreign Sovereigns, was held at the London Tavern on Thursday last, to receive the report of the committee and elect pensioners. From the report it appeared that since the society had been established, in 1806, it had granted relief, in no fewer than 93,992 instances, to 14,322 persons. Last year casual relief had been administered in 1837 instances, and passage-money was granted to 213 families. The number of persons who received the annual bounty of £13 was eighty-four; of aged persons who received monthly allowances, seventy-three; in addition to which six persons received the Jubilee bounty of £5. The sum expended in pensions and allowances was £1472 18s. 6d.; in relief and passage-money, £1253 12s. During the last year there had been three deaths in the almshouses in Lower Norwood, the vacancies caused thereby having been filled up. The number of families in the almshouse was twenty-four, consisting of thirty-six persons. At the last dinner of the society, presided over by the Earl of Carlisle, the sum collected was £2970. The receipts of the last year, including a previous balance, amounted to £3356 6s. 5d.; the expenditure was £3178 14s. 11d.; leaving a balance in hand of £177 11s. 6d. Out of thirty-six candidates the number of persons elected was nine. Thanks were given to the chairman, and the meeting separated.

WELSH SCHOOL FESTIVAL.—The Welsh School, recently removed to Ashford, near Hounslow, celebrated St. David's Day in grand style on Tuesday at the Freemason's Tavern. Mr. Pugh occupied the chair, and was supported by Lord Dynevor, Lord Duncannon, the Master of the Rolls, and others. After the health of her Majesty, the chairman proposed "The Health of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales," patron of the institution, and trusted it would not be many years before his Royal Highness would preside in that chair, which had been so often filled by his illustrious forefathers. "The Army and Navy," "The Church," and "Prosperity to the Welsh Charity School," were the succeeding toasts; and the children, to the number of 170, were then marched in. They have gained greatly by their removal from Gray's-inn-lane to Ashford. The chairman stated that the school had now been established close upon a century and a half, and during that time between 2000 and 3000 children had been educated and provided for; and from what had already been done he augured well for the future. Though they previously appealed to the natives of Wales, still such an institution was deserving of the warmest support of every friend of education. The healths of the chairman and of Lord Duncannon were given in complimentary terms, and it was announced that the subscriptions of the evening amounted to nearly £1000.

THE GREAT SHIP COMPANY (LIMITED).—The first ordinary general meeting of the proprietors in this company, reformed from the old company, took place on Friday week, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, for the purpose of receiving the report of the directors, and electing the directors and auditors. Mr. R. R. Campbell, the chairman of the company, read the report, which stated that the purchase has been completed on the basis of the arrangements arrived at between the Eastern Steam Navigation Company and the promoters of this company, at a cost of £165,332, of which sum £161,482 has been paid in shares and money; and it is expected that the liquidation of the Eastern Steam Navigation Company will yield such a result as will render the payment of the balance, £3850 (due Feb. 1, 1860), unnecessary, as this company will rank as shareholders in respect of all Eastern Steam Shares exchanged for shares in this company, but without incurring any liability. The directors congratulated the proprietors on the favourable prospects of the company, in being the possessors of the finest steam-ship in the world, at a cost per ton not exceeding that of an ordinary sailing-vessel. The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said he had the most perfect confidence in the entire success of the undertaking, and he felt satisfied that before their next meeting he should have the pleasure of seeing the proprietors on board. There was a certainty of the completion of the ship by August. He (the chairman) believed that the vessel, when completed, would be extensively employed by the Government. He had seen Lord Stanley, and explained their position; and the noble Lord said he looked forward with much interest to the success of the ship, and he felt that if on the trial-trip the ship should prove successful the result would be that it would render this country and India independent of Egypt. The original destination of the ship was Portland, where every preparation had been made to receive the ship, and that would be the first place the ship would be sent to, but her future destination no doubt would be India. The report was carried unanimously; and the other business of the meeting was then disposed of.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.—The half-yearly meetings of eighteen railway companies were held on Monday—namely, the Boston, Sleaford, and Midland Counties; Metropolitan, Mid Kent, East Kent, Hampstead Junction, Rhymmes, Norwich and Spalding, Staines, Wokingham, and Woking; Wimbledon and Dorking, Epsom and Leatherhead, Great Western and Brentford, Dublin and Meath, and Newry and Armagh. The reports were adopted at all of them. The half-yearly meeting of the Boston and Sleaford Company was held at the Euston Hotel.—Mr. Herbert Ingram, M.P., in the chair. The report stated that there was for the half-year ending December 31 last a considerable increase in the gross earnings of the line between Barkstone Junction and Sleaford over those of the corresponding half-year of 1857, enabling the directors, after providing for the debenture interest, to recommend a dividend of 2s. 6d. per share, carrying a surplus to next year's account. It was also stated that the line between Boston and Sleaford would be opened for traffic on the 12th of April next, when it was expected there would be a large increase in the earnings per mile, on account of the trade between Nottingham and Boston, which towns the line will bring into communication with each other, as the line will afford to the coal-producing districts ready access to a shipping port. The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, informed the shareholders that was the last occasion they would have to meet before the completion of their line throughout. He had had several representations made to him with respect to the arrears of calls, but he thought the best way to get them in would be to declare a dividend of five per cent. That they should soon do so he had little doubt, for there was a gradual increase in the amount of their traffic. The result was highly satisfactory, and the dividend they were about to recommend was equivalent to one of four per cent per annum upon the portion of their line which cost the most (£11,000 per mile) for its construction. The line from Sleaford to Boston would not cost near so much per mile; and when the whole line was opened they might say that on an average it cost £2000 per mile. This fact alone, independent of the expectations of traffic mentioned in the report, would show them that they were not far from dividing five per cent. After some conversation with respect to the shares in arrear of calls the chairman stated that at the next half-yearly meeting steps would be taken to have them forfeited. The report was then adopted, and the dividend declared. The Epsom and Leatherhead Company passed a resolution sanctioning the sale of the line to the South-Western for £50,000 in cash, or £40,000 Five per Cent, or £50,000 Four per Cent Perpetual Stock. It was stated that the Epsom and Wimbledon line, opening up a third route to the Derby, will be open in the course of the next month. The Wimbledon and Dorking Company agreed to an arrangement whereby the line is to be worked by the South-Western Company. The Great Western and Brentford Company passed a resolution authorising a lease of the line to the Great Western. The East Kent Company passed resolutions confirming the forfeiture of a number of shares, and empowering the directors to make arrangements for the use and working of the Sittingbourne and Sheerness, and Herne Bay and Faversham lines. At the meeting of the Mid-Kent Company a dividend of 2s. 6d. per share for the half-year was declared. The North and South-Western Junction Company declared a dividend at the rate of 3½ per cent per annum.

PROPOSED DOCKS AT THE MOUTH OF THE MEDWAY.—A project is shortly to be brought under public notice for constructing three docks near the mouth of the River Medway. The site selected, the Isle of Grain, will, it is affirmed, offer remarkable advantages to ships from the northern ports of Europe. It is also in contemplation to construct a line of railway from the docks to Strood.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE close of last week was marked by the all-important announcement made by Lord Malmesbury in one House, and Mr. Disraeli in the other (and not, some folks have noticed, in terms of exactly equal strength), that the Pope had required the evacuation of the States of the Church by the armies of Austria and France. Funds, of course, immediately rose in the European markets. It has since been stated in Continental journals that the French troops have received orders to prepare to retire upon Civita Vecchia preparatory to their withdrawal. Lord Cowley is at Vienna "on a mission of peace;" that is to say, to induce Austria to assent to a withdrawal which it is evident involves far more serious considerations to her, with her Italian interests actually existing, than for France, whose interests in Italy are in the future. Cardinal Wiseman has reminded the public that a similar request was made to the occupying Powers by his Holiness Pope Pius a year ago, without result. The proposed course is the natural one at this crisis; but those who see in it an addition to the probability of long-preserved peace are more sanguine than many who have taken the pains to understand the real situation of antagonistic interests in the south. Meantime, France is ringing with military preparation, and Marseilles is choked up with munitions of war, the very biscuit-makers working by relays day and night. A rise in the funds at Vienna may indicate that there were favourable rumours of the success of Lord Cowley's mission. But though the opening of the game of chess may be retarded, the players have considered their attacks, and there is small doubt that we shall, ere long, witness a terrible illustration of the Italian Gambit.

Mr. Disraeli has laid the Conservative Reform Bill before the country. It is not necessary to do more here than advert to the fact. For the information, however, of those who do not read much political writing, and yet like to have some inkling of the meaning of the discussions between fathers, husbands, brothers, and guests, it may be mentioned that the Government has prepared with adroitness a plan for somewhat increasing the representation without yielding to any very large extent to the alleged popular demand. There is enfranchisement to the amount of some quarter of a million, by a lowering of the county franchise from £20 to £10, but borough voters are deprived of the county franchise. From fifteen places returning two members each one is taken away, and the seats thus gained are given to several large and populous localities. There are a number of what are termed "fancy franchises" given; and all lawyers, doctors, clergy, dissenting ministers, certified schoolmasters, graduates of Universities, and some others who have social position, receive votes therefrom, as do all lodgers who pay eight shillings a week, and persons possessing £60 in the savings-banks, or in the receipt of £10 per annum from stocks or other securities. Elections are to be facilitated by the making a great number of new polling-places, and persons may vote by written papers, if they please, instead of going to the hustings. We do not here enter upon the merits of the bill; but, in the interest of the gentle listeners to whom these lines are offered, we may add that the ultra-Conservatives consider that too much concession is made (two of the Ministers have retired in consequence); while the Liberal party allege that nothing is done for the working classes. If it be the essence of a good judgment at law that it quite satisfies neither suitor, perhaps the same doctrine may hold good with a legislative measure. Lord Derby has told his followers that he will dissolve Parliament unless properly supported. So now comes the encounter—

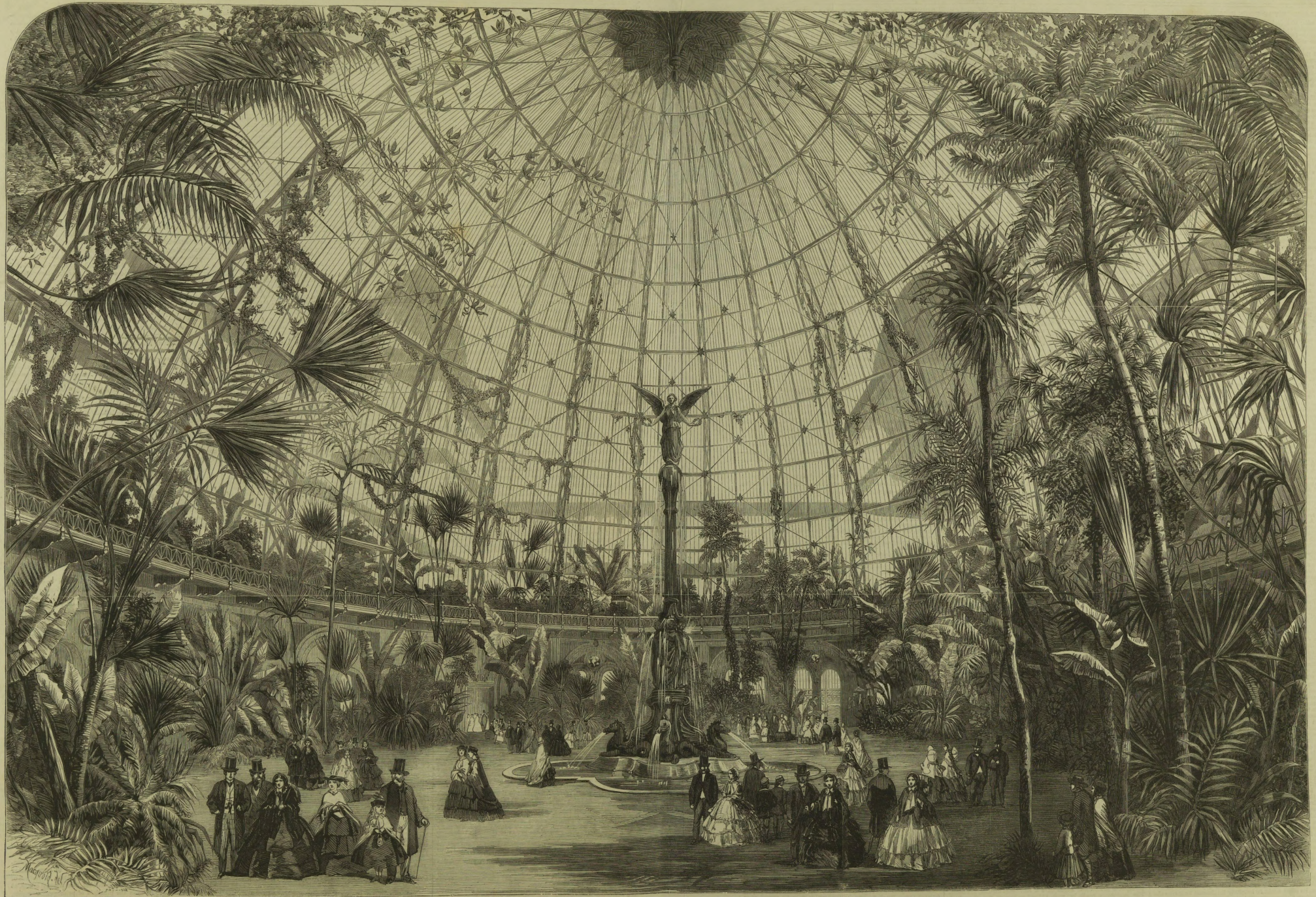
Their oaths are said,
Their prayers are prayed,
Their lances in the rests are laid.

Indian news continues to have warlike interest. We hear of more conflicts with rebels, and more slaughter in their ranks; but the final following up the vengeance, and the hunting down the fugitives is now committed, in and near his own district, to an enemy more fell than even the English. Sir Jung Bahadoor has undertaken the task, and if he be in earnest about it, which seems probable, that Honorary Knight Grand Cross of the Bath will be about as agreeable and antagonist in the jungles as the celebrated "fighting tiger" of Lucknow, Jungla, who has just arrived, and upon whom, it is to be hoped, Mr. David Mitchell has pounced for the Zoological Society's Gardens.

Lord Elgin's expedition up the Yang-Tsee has been a most interesting and important one. For the first time, English civilisation has forced its way into the real heart of China, and it is evident that the treaty which has been obtained will not be allowed to remain a dead letter. There is a water-way which will enable British enterprise to lay the product of British skill and industry before a nation which comprehends the value of both; and if for a time there is a certain stiffness and even hostility in the intercourse, better acquaintance with one another will make both parties very good commercial friends. At present, indeed, it would seem as if the authorities, though outwardly submissive, were not inclined to be amicable; and a recent attack by the Braves, near Canton, was thought to be the result of official intimation that the foreigners were still enemies. It was necessary to disabuse the Braves of such an impression, so their well-fortified hold was gallantly stormed, after which explanation, it is to be hoped, that the utmost friendliness will be cultivated.

We have adverted to the retirement of two of the Ministers on the Reform Bill question. The two are the late Home Secretary, Mr. Walpole, and the late President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Henley. They have offered explanations to the House of Commons, and such explanations have been listened to with the respect which the high character of the two gentlemen, and the honourable course they have adopted, deserved. We hope never to see the day when the Parliament shall listen without the most earnest attention to any statement affecting the personal honour of any of its members. It is the respect which England pays to the private honour of her public men that keeps them what they are, and prevents the affairs of the country from falling into the hands of gamblers, stockjobbers, or "smart men." The successors of the retiring Ministers are not gentlemen whose names are as yet very largely known; but it is understood that existing arrangements are preliminary, and that, if the Ministry holds its own, several alterations are contemplated. Mr. Gladstone and Lord Elgin are talked of as possible reinforcements. Later in the week Lord Henry Gordon Lennox, one of the Lords of the Treasury, resigned.

Mr. Locke King has had one of his bills embodied in the Government Reform Bill, and may therefore be content to have another thrown over—his measure for letting landed estate, in respect of which the owner has made no will, be divided, like personal estate, at his death. This attack upon the principle of primogeniture rights, and perhaps the consideration that people of small means ought not to be sent to a lawyer when the law itself can be their will and testament, produced a large hostile majority, and the bill was rejected.



THE WINTER GARDEN AT THE CONTEMPLATED PALACE OF THE PEOPLE MUSWELL-HILL.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

PALACE OF THE PEOPLE, MUSWELL-HILL.

In our Number of Feb. 12 we gave a sketch of the Front View of the building as it will appear from the Great Northern Railway, which runs just at the foot of the sloping grounds. We are now able to present our subscribers with an Engraving of the Interior of the Central Dome, which forms one of the most beautiful and distinctive features of the designs for the Palace of the People.

This dome will be of 200 feet internal and 216 feet external diameter, springing 36 feet from the floor of the dome itself, and 48 feet from the general level of the building. It will rise between four towers, connected by galleries, and will be flanked by two naves, each with a clear area of 336 feet by 120, with side aisles 72 feet wide.

The difficulty which has been found at the Crystal Palace at Sydenham in maintaining a proper heat for the tropical plants, without serious injury to the effect of the other parts of the building, led the architect to the conception of a central dome, which might contain a winter garden or tropical conservatory, and be maintained at a proper heat without this inconvenience.

Beneath its capacious and lofty roof palms and other specimens of the magnificent vegetation of the tropics will find room to attain their full development. As the dome will be glazed on all sides, the humid atmosphere necessary for the growth of such plants will not penetrate the rest of the building, which is of great importance with respect to fine-art productions and delicate manufactures, so liable to suffer where the least dampness prevails.

It is considered that this concentration of the exotic plants in the centre of the building, under a dome of almost fairy-like elegance, will prove advantageous with respect to their culture in an economical point of view, and will offer the most agreeable rendezvous for visitors entering from either nave.

It must, of course, be a work of time properly to stock such a conservatory with its hanging gardens; but every lover of horticulture will rejoice in the erection of such a noble receptacle for the choicest productions of the vegetable kingdom; and, if carried out according to the design, it promises to surpass anything which has yet been attempted in this country.

The scheme for the erection of a People's Palace at Muswell-hill is being quietly matured, and its publication may be expected shortly. A board of directors is in course of formation, and will comprise persons of recognised position and means; and the list of honorary patrons, which we have seen, is a strong one. An interesting feature of the plan is the proposed appropriation of thirty acres of land to benevolent institutions connected with art, science, literature, music, the drama, horticulture, and the railway interest. Committees are at work in each department making the necessary arrangements for the erection and endowment of the different colleges, the designs for which are all to be submitted to the approval of Mr. Owen Jones. At the outset of its career, therefore, this undertaking bids high for the sympathy and support of those arts and professions upon which it must mainly rely for success. The idea is a good and politic one, and will probably prove as beneficial to the company as to the recipients of the gifts.

MUSIC.

The SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY have revived Handel's "Solomon," after an interval, if we remember rightly, of nine or ten years. They have done well to reproduce this oratorio; for, though it is by no means one of Handel's greatest works, still it is Handel's; and every emanation from his mighty genius ought to receive attention. We have always thought that the Sacred Harmonic Society limit their performances too exclusively to a very few of the great master's principal works. The "Messiah," "Israel in Egypt," "Samson," and "Judas Maccabæus," have for many years been the whole extent of their range, to the neglect of others which, though inferior on the whole, yet exhibit beauties that ought never to be allowed to die. Of these "Solomon" is one. It is among Handel's latest works, produced when his sun had passed its zenith and was near its setting. His powers were beginning to yield to the weight of years and infirmities; and, though his genius still burned brightly, it was losing the sustained effulgence of his earlier days. Add to this the demerits of the poem (as we must call it), put into the musician's hands by one of the literary hacks whom he unfortunately employed, and we have enough to account for much greater faults and defects than are to be found in "Solomon." We must rather wonder at the genius which, even in its decline, could create so much grandeur and beauty out of such materials.

As a dramatic poem "Solomon" is despicable. The language is mean and prosaic, and the sentiments correspond to the diction. A large portion of the piece consists of songs and choruses to the honour and glory of the mighty Monarch, so fulsome in their adulation that they provoke disgust. One portion only possesses anything like interest—the scene of the famous "Judgment" of the dispute between the two mothers for the possession of the child. This incident is so beautiful in itself that even a poetaster could hardly spoil it; and the music in which Handel has clothed it is among the most exquisite and dramatic that he has ever written.

The performance of this oratorio on Friday, last week, was in many respects excellent. The principal solo parts, including that of "Solomon," are for female voices, having been written for favourite singers of the Italian Opera. On this occasion the two sopranos were Madame Catherine Hayes and Madame Weiss, and the contralto was Miss Dolby. The famous scene above mentioned was performed with remarkable beauty. Catherine Hayes (as the true mother) sang with exquisite feeling; and Madame Weiss, in the spurious mother, had the skill to express the woman's hard character without injuring the beauty of the music. Miss Dolby, in the character of the King, sang admirably, and was especially happy in the noble recitative in which the Judge pronounces sentence. The male parts, difficult without being important, are ungrateful to the singers; but Mr. Montem Smith and Mr. Thomas sang with praiseworthy care, and did all justice to the music. The choruses betrayed occasional unsteadiness, owing, apparently, to insufficient rehearsal; but this defect will, of course, be removed when the oratorio (as it no doubt will be) is repeated.

The CRYSTAL PALACE CONCERT, on Saturday last, consisted of Mendelssohn's music to the "Edipus in Colonus" of Sophocles. Our musical readers are aware that two of the tragedies of the great Greek dramatist, the "Antigone" and the "Edipus," were produced upon the Berlin stage in a German version, and with the choruses sung by male voices. The "Antigone," in an English version, made from the German, was produced at Covent-garden Theatre nearly twenty years ago, in the same manner as at Berlin—that is to say, the representation was as far as possible in the same form as on the ancient Grecian stage. The character of the heroine was very beautifully acted by Miss Vandenhoff, and the grand, simple style of the choral music made a great impression on the public. The piece, consequently, had a considerable run. The "Edipus in Colonus" is a comparatively recent production. Like "Antigone," its music is full of Mendelssohn's bold and original genius, and it is equally well fitted for stage representation. But this, notwithstanding, the success of "Antigone," has not been attempted in England. It has, however, been performed two or three times as a concert-piece, the choruses being sung, and the drama read, by a single person. In this form it was produced at the Crystal Palace, the play being recited by Mr. Nicholls, a dramatic reader of some reputation. The performance was careful, and, in parts, highly effective. The choruses were well sung; and the excellent orchestra, under the direction of Herr Manns, played the fine, expressive instrumental accompaniments very beautifully. But the recitation of a long tragedy by a single person was felt to be heavy and monotonous, and the whole, consequently, was rather coldly received. We believe that the "Edipus" might be brought upon the stage in the same way as the "Antigone" was, and with even a greater prospect of success, for the public are much more alive to the beauties of Mendelssohn's music now than they were then. At all events, if this cannot be done, and if the piece is performed in the concert-room, its effect might be infinitely heightened by giving the various characters distinct representatives, who might recite their parts in the same manner as dramatic dialogue is carried on in the performance of an oratorio.

THE THEATRES, &c.

HAYMARKET.—On Monday, after "The Unequal Match," which appears to increase in attraction, and to be a better comedy every time it is witnessed, a new comic drama, in one act, was produced, entitled "The Young Mother." This piece, which consists of materials that we were already familiar with, appears to have been produced for the purpose of introducing Miss Emily Allen, in the character of *Angelina Melrose*, a young lady who has been left in charge of a family, and who has inspired a strong interest in the heart of *Harry Oakheart* (Mr. Buckstone), a cabinet-maker. He has supplied *Miss Angelina* with a cabinet, in which there is a secret drawer, of which he takes advantage to add to her little savings. He is seen in the act by *Frank Melrose* (Mr. Farren), who has lost his situation as a pianoforte-maker, and got into serious difficulties by extravagant habits. His intentions are good, but his temptation is strong; and he is driven by despair almost to force the money-box deposited in the cabinet. Fortunately, his better principles prevail; for, at the moment, *Oakheart* enters, with money enough to fit the whole party out for an Australian expedition, himself included; whereupon *Angelina* declares her affection for him, and the curtain falls on the happiness of all parties. The debutante is a petite, pretty, and interesting person, with much feeling, and as a juvenile heroine will prove a useful addition to the company.

LYCEUM.—Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams have transferred their services from Drury to this theatre; and on Monday a new piece was produced in honour of the occasion. It is an odd affair, in two acts, entitled "The Leprachaun." The mysterious being mentioned in the title is a creature of Irish superstition—a sort of faery—who is supposed to appear as a dwarfish old man, with a penchant for buried treasure, which may be obtained from him by fixing him with the eye, and thwacking him with a cudgel with one hand while he is held tight with the other. Mr. Barney Williams represents an Irishman in Spain in search of hidden treasure, which he had heard was concealed in a certain ditch, and who meets with just such an old man as might be mistaken for the *Leprachaun*, and proceeds accordingly to misuse him in the national fashion. As his name is *Phelim O'Donnell* he is mistaken for General O'Donnell, seized by the military and brought before the pompous Corregidor, *Almazor*, (Mr. Barrett), and, after being imprisoned, escaping, and being recaptured, is recognised by the *Marchesa San Rodrigo* (Miss Portman) as her deliverer, and finds himself in the way of good fortune. Mr. Williams acted with his usual spirit and boldness, and carried through the slight dramatic sketch triumphantly. The new piece was followed by "An Hour at Seville," and "Ireland as It Was," in both which Mrs. Williams appeared in her customary characters. The house was well attended, and the audience gave a hearty reception to both the husband and wife.

NEW ADELPHI.—Mr. and Mrs. Wigan made their appearance at this house on Monday, in "Still Waters Run Deep," and were well received by a numerous audience; after which Mr. Wright performed *John Grundy*, in "Domestic Economy," and the entertainments concluded with "The Invisible Prince," in which Miss Woolgar manifested her usual vivacity.

SADLER'S WELLS.—After an interval of twelve years, the tragedy of "Romeo and Juliet" was revived on Thursday week, with new and brilliant costumes, and appropriate scenery. The manager took the part of *Mercutio*, and personated the Verona wit with uncommon vivacity. But such passages as "Queen Mab," and other poetical vagaries of the dramatists, were delivered in an artificial style which, though well enough sustained, invited censure. Mrs. Young's *Juliet* was animated, and not deficient in a certain vitality of feeling; but there was no attempt at impersonation, and the poetical meanings were uniformly omitted. It was simply an artless though energetic recital of the text. Her chamber scene was, however, much better than the balcony one, which was remarkably ineffective. Mr. F. Robinson was *Romeo*. His assumption was marked with care, much intelligence, and some passion. He has, however, a tendency to imitate the style of other actors on the same stage. Here we catch a touch of Mr. Marston; there another of Mr. Phelps. It was, nevertheless, a "good" and "sufficient" piece of acting, and more like what *Romeo* should be than any other attempt at the part in recent days that has fallen under our notice. Altogether, the entire performance is remarkably pleasing, and will doubtless prove gratifying to successive audiences, whose support it merits.

STANDARD.—On Monday Mrs. W. C. Forbes, who lately appeared at the Haymarket, commenced a week's engagement at this theatre in the part of *Lucretia Borgia*, in the terrible drama so named. We remark that American and Australian actresses are ambitious of acting these scenes of horror, which, however, show better in opera than in dialogue. The character is not one well calculated to display the merits of the actress, and Mrs. Forbes performs it with a degree of vehemence to which we are not accustomed on the English stage. But it is probably too late to warn the lady now against extravagance.

NEW PAVILION.—Mr. Douglas has commenced at this theatre a series of nautical entertainments, got up in spectacular style, regardless of expense. The first of the series is entitled "Fifteen Years of a British Seaman's Life"—a piece which thirty years ago ran for four hundred and twenty-eight consecutive nights. The drama abounds in character, incidents, and events; and the tableaux at the conclusion of each act, with the panoramas needful to give continuity to the action, are superb. A view of Chatham Dockyard, prepared for a ship-launch; a storm off the Cape, with the *Cornwallis* and a jolly-boat; the battle of Navarino; and the full deck of a man-of-war frigate, set for punishing a refractory sailor, are all great examples of scenic art. The piece is acted throughout capitally.

HALIFAX.—Mr. Belton's management of this theatre is drawing to a close, but has been extraordinarily successful. Both the local journals (the *Guardian* and the *Courier*) praise the performances in high terms. On Monday week and Saturday last "Macbeth" was performed, and not only gave full satisfaction to the audience, but to the critics. Miss Edith Heraud's *Lady Macbeth* is the theme of great commendation. "Her playing was first rate." "We must say that Miss Heraud's *Lady Macbeth* was superior to that of any actress who has appeared of late years in the Halifax Theatre. In the scene in which she plots the death of *Duncan*, and upbraids *Macbeth* with cowardice, her conception of the character was admirable, and it was rendered in such a manner as to draw down repeated applause." This account will be satisfactory to the young lady's numerous admirers in London.

The agreeable and interesting Entertainment at the POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION, which we lately noticed—Mr. Horne's Lecture on "The Beggar's Opera," with vocal illustrations—continues to be given every evening, as we foretold, with unabated and even increasing success. The lecture has no small literary merit. It is a lively and graphic description of English society and manners in Gay's time, which form so striking a contrast with those of the present day; and the lecturer's remarks on the vices and follies, which furnished matter for the satirist, are characterised by good sense and moral feeling. Many allusions in Gay's famous piece are explained by means of curious and amusing anecdotes. The vocal part of the entertainment is delightful. Miss Roden sings the sweet and pathetic songs in the part of *Polly* in a manner which charms and moves every hearer. There is tenderness and feeling in the very sound of her voice. She never forgets the simplicity, which is the life and soul of those fine old melodies; and her execution of them is as finished and graceful as it is pure. This young lady, whose name is only beginning to be known to the public, has vocal qualities, both natural and acquired, of the highest order, and requires nothing but a field for their full display.

MISS GLYN.—This distinguished actress appeared on Tuesday, at the Standard Theatre, on the occasion of Mrs. Honner's benefit. She performed in but one scene—the statue-scene of "The Winter's Tale," in which she always produces a most wonderful effect. The change from the appearance of a statue to life she makes not instantaneously, which is the usual mode of doing it, but by imperceptible gradations, which have a still more thrilling influence. The impression made by such refined acting on the Shoreditch audience proved palpably that it is not necessary to be melodramatic in order to please "the gods." We never witnessed in any theatre more breathless silence followed by more enthusiastic applause.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

LORD STANHOPE has this week rendered a further service to his country. He has secured, at fair prices, three portraits of persons conspicuous in the history of England. Of their genuineness there can be no doubt. They come from Holme-Lacy, in Herefordshire, the seat of the Scudamores. There have been competitors of no mean rank on the look out for Lord Stanhope's acquisition. Her Majesty wanted one, Lord Winchester wanted another, and Mr. Sidney Herbert stood purse in hand for the purchase of the third. It is gratifying to think that there are private collectors who will surrender their claims and withdraw in favour of the public. The picture her Majesty is said to have desired is a full-length of the only son of Mary Queen of Scots—a most curious portrait of King James I. of England (sixth of Scotland), standing in balloon-like breeches, with a hawk on his fist. The date on the picture is 1574, when the Scottish Solomon was still under the rod of George Buchanan. In every respect it is an historical picture, and the price (two hundred and fifty guineas) was not too much. The picture Lord Winchester wanted was the portrait of Lord Burleigh's predecessor, *Willow Winchester*, Lord High Treasurer of England when Queen Elizabeth was Queen. Other portraits exist of the same historical man—nay, the Portrait Gallery itself had one before, and there is a fair one at the Antiquaries; but this seems to us indisputably superior to all within our knowledge. The third acquisition—the picture Lord Stanhope has secured, and Mr. Sidney Herbert "longed for"—is the portrait of Mary Sidney, Countess of Pembroke, Sidney's sister, Pembroke's mother; and a very curious, and well-painted portrait it is. There is an inscription in the left-hand corner which puzzles every one—"Martij 12^o, Anno Domini 1614. No Spring till now." To what does this refer? Some of our readers will, perhaps, tell the meaning of the inscription.

Our new pilgrim friends in the land of Columbia and George Washington are not a little angry at the supposed over-appreciation England is said to have expressed of the deceased Hallam over the deceased Prescott. Two great writers—to be remembered honourably wherever English is uttered—have passed from among us nearly at the same moment. Prescott was a great man; Hallam was a great man. Hallam has done more for England than Prescott has done for America; but Prescott has rendered more valuable service to American literature than Hallam has rendered to English literature.

In literature, the marvel of the week has been the appearance of another six-shilling Quarterly Review. Bentley publishes it,—it is "Bentley's Quarterly Review," with a touch of "Saturday Review" about it. Clowes prints it in a new type, to distinguish it from the famous Quarterly of Fleet-street and Albemarle-street. The self-same Clowes print the Albemarle-street Quarterly. "How funny it would be," said a living George Selwyn, "should Clowes, by a kind of impossible mistake, transfer an article for Murray into an article for Bentley—for serious mistakes are common enough."

T. K. Hervey is no more among us, or among living creatures. He is as dead as John Hunter, whose coffin, brass-plate inscribed, Mr. Frank Buckland dug up the other day in the vaults of Gibbs's great masterpiece—the church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields. This man Hervey—now no more—was, in his way, a very able man! It was Hervey who carried *The Athenæum* to its high spoke in the ladder of success. We must ever think of Hervey with a sense of the many services he has rendered to periodical literature. He wrote well;—better still, he was an excellent editor—knowing and fully fulfilling the duties of an editor.

The following paper is so important—Lord Macaulay has signed it—that we give it entire. The person addressed is Cresswell, of the Probate Court—a gentleman and a scholar:—

Sir,—The undersigned historical writers and persons interested in various branches of historical or literary research beg leave most respectfully to submit to your consideration the following statement of the manner in which certain regulations of the Record Office for wills affect the labours of persons engaged in literature.

Besides the original wills deposited in the Record Office in Doctors' Commons, there is preserved in the same repository a series of register books, containing copies of wills entered chronologically from A.D. 1333 to the present time.

These register or entry books fall practically into two divisions or classes. The later books are daily consulted by relatives of testators, claimants, and solicitors, and yield a considerable revenue in fees paid for searches, inspections, and copies.

The more ancient books are very rarely consulted by claimants or solicitors, and yield no revenue that is worthy of the slightest consideration.

With respect to the original wills, of whatever date, and the entry books of modern wills, which may be defined to mean wills proved since the accession of the House of Hanover, the undersigned beg to express clearly that this application is not designed to have any reference to them, nor to any persons engaged in searches for legal purposes, or for any purposes save those of a literary character. The undersigned confine their remarks and this application exclusively to the books of entries of those more ancient wills which, in all but some very peculiar cases of peerage claims, have long ceased to be useful for legal purposes.

These books of entries of ancient wills are of the very highest importance to historical inquirers. They abound with illustrations of manners and customs; they exhibit in the most authentic manner the state of religion and the condition of the various classes of the people; they illustrate the history of law and civilization; they are invaluable to the general historian, the philologist, the genealogist, the biographer, the topographer—to historical writers of every class. They constitute the most important depository in existence of exact information relating to events and persons during the long period to which they relate.

But this most important information is all but unavailable in consequence of the regulations of the office in which these entry-books are kept. All the books both of ancient and modern wills are kept together, and can be consulted only in the same manner, and subject to the same restrictions and the same payments. No distinction is made between the fees to be paid by a literary searcher who wishes to make a few notes from wills, perhaps three or four hundred years old, in order to rectify a fact, a name, a date, or to establish the proper place of a descent in a pedigree, or the exact meaning of a doubtful word, and the fees to be paid by a person who wants a copy of a will proved yesterday, as evidence of a right, perhaps, to be enforced in a court of justice. No extract is allowed to be made, not even of a word or a date, except the names of the testator and the executors, and the date of the will and probate. Printed statements in historical books, which refer to wills and probate, may not be compared with the wills as entered. Even ancient copies of wills handed down for generations in the families of the testators may not be collated with the registered wills without paying the customary fees for making new and entire copies.

No such restrictions exclude literary inquirers elsewhere. The manuscripts in the British Museum are freely open to all inquirers. The indexes, calendars, and all the contents of the public records are open to literary searchers, under regulations which give almost unlimited freedom. Free access is given to all the collections in the State Paper Office down to the year 1688. The Record Office of Wills has long been the only public office in the kingdom which is practically shut against literary inquirers by prohibitory fees.

The results are obvious. The more ancient entry-books, not being accessible to those by whom alone they would be understood, lie in the repository almost without use. Upon literature the effects are most prejudicial. Statement of facts which should undergo a process of sifting and authentication before they take their place in works of history are left unauthenticated, uncertain, and incomplete; literary men and literary societies are thwarted and discouraged in their researches; and all inquirers who have ever visited the office for literary purposes regard its condition, so far as it affects their own particular pursuits, as a grievance, prejudicial to literature, and not creditable to the country.

The undersigned most respectfully submit these circumstances to your consideration, in the strong hope that the time has at length arrived when such changes may be made in the regulations of the Record Office for Wills as may assimilate its practice, so far as regards the entry-books of wills proved before the accession of the house of Hanover, to that of the public Record Office.

And, &c.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

[The following abstract of the Parliamentary intelligence of Friday, Feb. 25, appeared in the Saturday's edition of this Journal last week.]

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

THE INDIAN MUTINIES.—The Duke of Marlborough inquired whether it was intended by her Majesty's Government to appoint a day of public thanksgiving for the cessation of the Indian Mutinies.—The Earl of Malmesbury said that, as the mutinies were not yet quite at an end, the question had better be postponed.—After a long conversation, principally kept up by the Bishops, the subject dropped.

THE AFFAIRS OF ITALY.—The Earl of Malmesbury said that, as there was some misapprehension prevailing as to what had taken place in the other House, he would state that the Papal States would very shortly be evacuated both by France and Austria, at the request of the Pope himself.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

NEW MEMBER.—Mr. Calthorpe took his seat for East Worcestershire.

CHURCH RATES.—Sir J. TRELAWNY gave notice that on the order of the day for the second reading of the Government Church Rate Bill, he should move that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

MR. STAPLETON postponed his motion relative to the Danubian Principalities until the House should be moved to go into Committee on the Army Estimates.

THE REFORM BILL.—Mr. BAXTER put a question as to the intentions of the Government with regard to the introduction of Reform bills for Scotland and Ireland; in reply to which the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said it was unfair to press him with such questions before he had an opportunity of making his general Reform statement to the House, and he therefore declined to answer the question.

CAPTAIN VYSE.—Mr. M. MILNES called attention to the recent appointments of Consuls and Vice-Consuls to Japan, and expressed his hope that that of Captain Vyse would be reconsidered.—Mr. S. FITZGERALD defended the appointments, and said the objections which had been expressed were founded upon a misconception.—A good deal of conversation took place upon the subject before it dropped.

THE PEACE OR WAR QUESTION.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply on the Navy Estimates, the House having become crowded in all parts,

Lord PALMERSTON, according to notice, rose to call the attention of the House to the present state of affairs on the Continent, and to ask her Majesty's Government "whether they were in a condition to make to the House any communication calculated to encourage the hope that there will be no interruption of the general peace of Europe?" He said he was actuated by no factious or party feeling; but he thought it his duty to bring the question forward, seeing that there was a general feeling throughout the world that war was approaching. On a recent occasion, the Chancellor of the Exchequer had stated that the preservation of peace was not absolutely hopeless, and he now wished to learn whether her Majesty's Government still entertained the same favourable impression. He therefore gave them the opportunity of making a statement; and if they could say that there was a fair prospect of preserving peace it would be satisfactory to the country at large, and beneficial to commerce; while, if the contrary were the case, to be forewarned was to be forearmed, and commercial men would know what to do. All over the Continent preparations were being made to meet a conflict, of which the ensuing spring or summer might witness the outbreak, although he had yet to learn that sufficient grounds of war existed between any two of the great European Powers. He could not suppose France to have in contemplation the violation of public treaties; and was it likely Austria was anxious to do so, or to enter into an unprovoked conflict with Sardinia? or that Sardinia would be so wild and insane as to provoke an unequal conflict? or that Russia would, without an object, rush into war? He could only see a prospect of war in the long-existing jealousy of France and Austria with regard to Central Italy, brought into more active operation by their joint occupation; and if such were the case, the remedy was to be found in their simultaneous withdrawal from the Papal States. To procure that withdrawal he hoped her Majesty's Government would use their friendly offices, and that France and Austria would accede, binding themselves, come what might, never to return; but whether they succeeded or not, if they made the effort her Majesty's Government would at all events know that they had done their duty.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER admitted the legitimacy of the question, and replied that he was in a position to express a hope that the Roman States would ere long be evacuated both by France and Austria, and with the full concurrence of the Papal Government. He added that Lord Cowley had gone to Vienna on a mission of conciliation; and, under the circumstances, asked the House to postpone all further discussion of the subject for the present.

Lord J. RUSSELL having briefly expressed his satisfaction at the statement just made to the House, the subject dropped.

THE NAVY ESTIMATES.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, when

Sir J. PAKINGTON brought forward the Navy Estimates for 1859-60, which, he said, amounted to £9,331,161, against £8,351,371 in 1858-59; the increase being necessary to render the Navy more efficient. He went through the items of increase, explaining them as he proceeded, particularly pointing attention to the fact that there were at the present time only four docks in her Majesty's yards capable of holding our largest ships; and that five others were about to be enlarged so as to fit them for that purpose. He also said that steps were being taken to secure a cheaper supply of marine engines for the Navy, and to economise dockyard expenditure generally; but the number of men to be voted was practically nearly 7000 more than last year, although only 3000 nominally. Last year we had no Channel fleet, but he had since created one of six sail of the line and, by other ships which were being put in commission, this would shortly be increased to a force of eight screw ships of the line, and five heavy screw frigates; while a reserve of 3000 men would be kept at home for future emergencies. The right hon. gentleman then compared the state of the Navy of this country with that of France; and, after pronouncing the latter to be far superior in point of screw-liners and heavy frigates, said that it was intended to add to the former fifteen screw-liners, nine heavy screw frigates, and two iron-cased ships before the close of the ensuing year, making a total addition of twenty-six powerful vessels, and that he hoped to see still larger additions hereafter. In conclusion, he moved that the number of men, boys, and marines for the ensuing year should be 62,480.

Sir C. WOOD intimated his acquiescence in the propositions of Sir J. PAKINGTON, and vindicated the proceedings of the late Government in connection with the Navy.

Sir C. NAPIER commended the conduct of the First Lord of the Admiralty, but contended that the proposed increase of 3000 men was not sufficient, since France at the present time commanded both the Channel and the Mediterranean, and could invade this country whenever she pleased, or destroy all its commerce without landing a man.

After some further discussion, the vote was agreed to.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

FRENCH AND AUSTRIAN TROOPS IN THE PAPAL DOMINIONS.—The Earl of Malmesbury, in answer to the Earl of Clarendon, stated that the knowledge the Government possessed with regard to the withdrawal of the French and Austrian troops from Rome, was that the Papal Government had requested of its own accord the evacuation of its territories; and there was no reason for the French and Austrian troops remaining for a single day after such a request.

THE DEBTOR AND CREDITOR BILL, on the motion of the LORD CHANCELLOR, was read a second time, after considerable discussion.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER brought forward his measure for amending the representation of the people in England and Wales. A full report of Mr. Disraeli's speech and of the ensuing debate is given in our Supplement, which this week contains eight extra pages.

The Title to Landed Estates Bill, and the Registry of Landed Estates Bill, were respectively read a second time, and ordered to be committed *pro forma*, in order to introduce some amendments.

The Church-rates Bill, the Church-rates Abolition Bill, and the Church-rates Commutation Bill, which stood for second reading, were postponed to Wednesday, the 9th inst.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

THE VEXATIOUS INDICTMENTS BILL, on the motion of Lord CAMPBELL, was read a second time, after considerable discussion on the legal question involved in the measure, in which Lord Wensleydale, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Brougham, and other Peers took part.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

NEW WRITS were ordered for North Wilts, in the room of Mr. S. Estcourt; for West Sussex, in the room of Earl March; for North Northumberland, in the room of Lord Lovain; and for Tewkesbury, in the room of Mr. F. Lygon; the vacating members having respectively accepted office as Secretary of State for the Home Department, President of the Poor-law Board, President of the Board of Trade, and Lord of the Admiralty.

EXPLANATIONS OF MR. WALPOLE AND MR. HENLEY.—Mr. WALPOLE, who spoke from a back ministerial bench, explained the motives which had induced him to resign office. When he first joined the Derby Administration, a year ago, he had felt, and mentioned to the Prime Minister, much apprehension that he should be forced to dissent from other members of the Cabinet on the subject of parliamentary reform should a bill for that object be introduced as a Government measure. He had consequently accepted office upon the understanding that if these causes of dissension ever

came into action he should retire without compromising his colleagues. This contingency having occurred, he had tendered his resignation on the 25th of January, when the terms of the bill were finally settled, and he had only retained his post a few weeks at the suggestion of his colleagues, in order to avoid the difficulties they must have encountered if obliged to meet Parliament with a divided Cabinet. Mr. Walpole afterwards inadvertently in strong terms upon the statements which had appeared in some of the journals respecting his resignation and the motives that were attributed to him for taking that step.—Mr. HENLEY followed with some explanations of nearly similar tone, on his own account. He was prepared for a considerable reduction in the borough franchise, but considered the identity of the franchise in counties and towns a proceeding fraught with serious peril, and tending towards revolution. With these serious differences of opinion between himself and the majority of the Cabinet he felt that his retirement from office was indispensable.

MERCHANT SHIPPING.

Mr. LINDSAY called attention to the present condition of the shipping interest, and moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the operation of certain burdens and restrictions affecting merchant shipping. Citing many returns to show the distressed condition of the mercantile marine, and the smaller comparative share which it has for many years enjoyed in the expansion of commercial intercourse, the great proportion falling into the hands of foreigners, the hon. member declared that he had no intention to impugn the policy of Free-trade. Nor did he insist on reciprocity, which, though very useful if it could be obtained, was a question that must be left to foreign Governments. There were, however, many grievances and burdens of home origin which seriously injured the shipping interest. Among these he enumerated the light dues, harbour dues, passing tolls, pilotage charges, and the timber duties; some regulations under the Merchant Shipping Act, and some other imposts and restrictions; respecting which he asked the House to authorise a full inquiry by the medium of a Select Committee.

The motion was seconded by Mr. LIDDELL, who showed at much detail the imperfect nature of the reciprocity established with foreign countries, even including those where British ships were professedly allowed the same privileges which their vessels enjoyed in English ports. He proceeded to quote figures proving how rapidly the foreigner had thriven under the modern system, to the disparagement of the British shipowner, and under circumstances which, if left unaltered, must, he believed, end in the latter being altogether distanced in the race with the foreign competitor.

Mr. CRAWFORD moved as an amendment that the proposed inquiry should be extended so as to include the operation of the Act for compensating the families of persons killed by accidents, the Merchant Shipping Acts of 1854 and 1855, the Passengers' Act of 1855, and the Chinese Passengers' Act, passed in the same year. All these measures, he maintained, contained provisions of an unnecessarily restrictive character, and proved of much injury to the shipping interest.

Mr. COLLIER supported the amendment.

Mr. HORSFALL, on behalf of Liverpool, asked for no retrogressive legislation, but for the removal of burdens which prevented them from competing with the vessels of other countries on equal terms.

Mr. LABOUCHERE admitted that the British shipping interest was just now suffering under severe depression; but this had followed upon a period of unusual prosperity, and there was reason to hope that it would prove only temporary. He remarked upon the general increase of commerce in every department since the inauguration of Free-trade and the Repeal of the Navigation Laws. Much had been done towards the establishment of reciprocity with various nations and in various ways, to which he alluded successively—the Legislature had interposed very beneficially for the protection and relief of the shipowner. He raised, however, no objection to the appointment of the Select Committee, though believing that the subjects presented for their investigation were too wide and heterogeneous.

Sir S. NORTHGOTE acknowledged that a *prima facie* case had been made out for an inquiry into the condition of the merchant shipping interest and the cause of the depression under which it was at present suffering. As no reversal of recent commercial policy was asked for, nor even any application of the retaliatory clause in the Act for the purpose of obtaining reciprocity from other countries, the Government was relieved from all difficulty in granting the committee. He notified, however, that there seemed a disposition to remove some of the burdens now imposed on shipping to the Consolidated Fund. Any expectation of such a transfer he felt officially bound to discountenance beforehand.

Mr. FENWICK believed that the interests of British shipping were chiefly injured by the operation of local exemption and passing tolls.

After some remarks from Mr. Clay, Mr. Ingham, and Mr. Ridley, Mr. CARDWELL expressed his approval of the motion. Inquiry, if it did not remove distress, would clear away misapprehension. Even the discussion of that evening had disposed of many fallacies urged with great confidence at various meetings held during the recess. The tendency of legislation on the subject during several years past had been wise and beneficial, and he gave many illustrations of the advantageous results that had been realised, both by commerce generally and the shipping interest especially, from the measure sanctioned by Parliament, and carried out under the supervision of the Board of Trade.

Mr. HENLEY commented upon various points connected with the shipping business, which might, he thought, be usefully investigated by the Select Committee.

Mr. ADAMS complained of the interference of foreigners in the British coasting trade.

Mr. WILSON, replying to this complaint, referred to a return showing that out of 81½ million tons of shipping entered inwards and outwards for coasting voyages last year, only 105,000 tons belonged to foreign vessels. After a few words from Mr. SPAIGHT, the motion was agreed to.

NEW BILLS.—Mr. MAHON obtained leave to bring in a bill to secure a right of appeal in criminal cases; Mr. DILLWYN obtained leave to introduce a bill for the better regulation of endowed schools; and Mr. BOVILL for two bills, one to amend the law relating to petitions of right, and the other to enable the judges to appoint commissioners within ten miles of London, and in the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands, to administer oaths in common law.

The Manslaughter Bill was read a second time.

The Inclosure of Lands Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

REAL ESTATE INTERESTS BILL.—Mr. LOCKE KING moved the second reading of this bill.—Lord W. GRAHAM moved as an amendment that the bill should be read a second time that day six months. The change in the law of succession to landed property which it effected might appear insignificant, but he contended that it would lead to other enactments, and ultimately abrogate the whole law of primogeniture.—A protracted discussion ensued, chiefly of a legal character, in which a great number of members participated. The House ultimately divided.—For the second reading, 76; for the amendment, 271.

CONVEYANCE OF VOTERS BILL.—The second reading of this bill, by which candidates at elections are prohibited from paying the expenses of conveying voters to the poll, but with provision for increasing the number of polling-places, was moved by Mr. COLLIER.—Mr. HUNT considered that it would be merely waste of time to discuss a bill while a general measure for Parliamentary reform was before the House. He moved that the debate should be adjourned.—This motion, after some desultory discussion, was withdrawn, and replaced by an amendment, deferring the second reading of the bill for six months.—The amendment was seconded by Mr. KNIGHTLEY, and supported by Sir J. PAKINGTON, who contended that the present moment was highly inconvenient for proceeding with such a measure.—Mr. AYRTON supported the bill.—On a division there appeared.—For the second reading, 172; against 153.—The Bill was then read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Wednesday next.

The Newspaper Duty Bill and the Recreation Grounds Bill were read a second time.

The Medical Act Amendment Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The House sat for about half an hour, but without transacting any business of public interest.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—Mr. GREGORY gave notice that he should that day fortnight move for a Select Committee to inquire into the reorganisation of the British Museum.

TITLES TO LAND.—In reply to Mr. Caird, the LORD ADVOCATE said he had in preparation a bill for improving the registers of titles to land in Scotland.

THE REFORM BILL.—In reply to Mr. Dodson, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said his estimate that the lowering of the franchise to £10 would increase the county voters by not less than 200,000 was founded upon six Parliamentary documents.

THE STADE DUES.—In reply to Mr. Ricardo, Mr. S. FITZGERALD said that the notice given to the Hanoverian Government, by Lord Malmesbury, on the 14th of August, to terminate the Stade Dues at the end of a twelve-month, remained in full force.

THE JEWISH OATH.—Mr. T. DUNCOMBE moved for leave to bring in a bill to convert into a standing order the power of the House to admit Jews (by permitting them to omit the words "On the true faith of a Christian" from the oath), under the Act of last Session.—Mr. NEWDEGATE moved, as an amendment, that no resolution should be moved under the Act, except after one day's notice given in the votes.—Mr. MALINS was favourable to the object of the motion; but as the main question was practically settled already, and the introduction of a bill would give rise to a good deal of opposition and discussion, he recommended Mr. Duncombe not to press his motion.—Mr. BENTINCK opposed the motion.—After some remarks from Mr. BYNG and Mr. CONINGHAM, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he thought it was extremely undesirable to reopen the question, and he should therefore oppose the motion and the amendment.—Sir G. GREY thought there ought to be an examination into the question whether the House had not the power to make a standing order without asking the assent of the House of Lords to a bill?—Mr. WALPOLE

suggested the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the right of the House to make the standing orders.—Lord J. MANNERS, on the part of the Government, consented to this course; and as Mr. Duncombe, and Mr. Newdegate concurred, the motion and amendment were both withdrawn, and a resolution for the appointment of a Select Committee was unanimously agreed to.

THE TIMBER DUTIES.—Mr. MITCHELL moved a resolution asserting the opinion of the House that the duties on foreign and colonial wood should be repealed; arguing that their retention was alike unjust and impolitic, since, while mahogany was admitted duty free, the lower classes of wood, such as in the construction of ships and small houses, was taxed to as high an amount as fourteen per cent.—Mr. FENWICK seconded the motion.—Sir S. NORTHGOTE said it was impossible for the House to bind the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER by adopting such a motion before he had made his financial statement.—Mr. WILSON made a similar objection.—After some remarks from Mr. Hudson, Mr. Labouchere, and Lord H. Vane, Mr. MITCHELL added to his motion the words "as soon as the state of the revenue admits of it;" but the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER still opposed it, stating that in a month he should probably submit his financial proposition to the House; and upon a division, the motion was negatived by 133 to 76.—majority 56.

FORBES MACKENZIE'S ACT.—Viscount MELGUND moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the laws regulating the sale and consumption of excisable liquors in Scotland.—Sir A. AONEN asserted that the inquiry, to be efficient, must take place in Scotland itself, and moved that it should be conducted by a Royal Commission instead of by a Select Committee.—The LORD ADVOCATE said he had given the subject every consideration, and had come to the conclusion that the inquiry would be best conducted by a Royal Commission.—After a long discussion the motion was withdrawn, and the amendment was agreed to.

COUNTRY NEWS.

LIQUID-FIRE SHELLS.—Captain Norton made some further experiments with his "liquid-fire" shell on Saturday last at Chatham. Some pieces of thick plank were erected at a convenient distance from the spot selected for the firing of the shell, which Captain Norton charged with the most minute portion—certainly not more than an ordinary tea-spoonful—of his liquid fire. The shell was then placed in an ordinary large-grooved rifle and fired, at short range, at the deal plank, against which it exploded, the glass containing the liquid fire immediately bursting and scattering its contents over the plank. The planking in a very few moments burst into flame, which burnt furiously until the plank struck was consumed. Captain Norton states that a succession of these shells, charged with the liquid fire, poured into a man-of-war, would burn her down to the water's edge.—After Captain Norton had completed his experiments with his shell he proceeded to test another invention of his, called the "water-proof frictional igniting cartridge." This cartridge, which, from its superiority and extreme simplicity, is better adapted for submarine explosions than either the Voltaic battery or Pictford's fuse, consists of a small india-rubber bag or casting, which holds a small quantity of powder, and also a simple contrivance for igniting it by means of friction. A cord leads from the frictional igniter within the bag, and this may be carried to any length. The waterproof bag being sunk, the slightest pull at the cord will ignite the powder, which explodes the large mass against which it is placed.

THE SCOTTISH NATIONAL GALLERY.—We learn from the *Scottish Press* that the arrangements connected with the formation of the Scottish National Gallery are now so nearly completed that in a short time the day will be fixed on which the western suite of rooms in the National Gallery, building on the Mound, will be opened, and the public admitted to view a collection of works of art really worthy of being called a national one. The catalogue is now being prepared, and as soon as it is finished the date of opening will be advertised. The first room is wholly devoted to portraits, among which are several beautiful examples of Sir Henry Raeburn. The Marquis of Abercorn's pictures are hung in the Second Octagon, along with several other large and valuable examples of ancient art. The third room, or large Centre Octagon, is filled with modern pictures. The fourth room is chiefly occupied by pictures which formed part of the collection exhibited in the Royal Institution, including of course the two fine Vandykes; and the fifth room is devoted to the Torrie collection.

THE SUICIDE OF A CLERGYMAN, the Rev. J. Woodcock, Vicar of Littlebourne, near Canterbury, is recorded by the local papers. The unhappy man, who was sixty-nine years old, had led an irregular life. He was presented to the living by the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury, so far back as 1823, and he was also one of the Minor Canons of Canterbury Cathedral; but, in consequence of his having absented himself from his vicarage, owing to pecuniary difficulties, he was called upon to resign the Minor Canonship, which he did in 1827. The deceased continued to hold his living, but his conduct was so objectionable that very few of his parishioners would attend the church. Recently there was increased scandal in the village, and an investigation was threatened. On Friday evening he retired to his bedroom, and from his manner his wife followed him, when in her presence he put a pistol to his head and blew out his brains. A coroner's inquest was held on the body on Saturday last, when the jury returned a verdict—"That the deceased, John Woodcock, shot himself while in a state of mental derangement." On Saturday the benediction was sequestered, in the names of the churchwardens of the parish, and on Sunday the instrument of sequestration was publicly read in the church.

GALLANT RESCUE.—About three o'clock on Thursday afternoon week a fire broke out in a three-storied house in Edge-street, Shudehill, each story of which was occupied by different families. Mrs. Emma Gee and two of her children were rescued with great difficulty. Several men then mounted the ladders to rescue a third child, which still remained in the room; but they were driven back by the smoke that issued in dense volumes from the window. After a few moments of dreadful suspense, Mr. Bagshaw, jun., ascended the ladder, and entered the room. He searched for the child, but could not find it, although he heard it crying. Repeatedly he came to the window for a fresh supply of air, and then turned back into the room to renew his search. After groping about on his hands and knees upon the floor for some time, he came in contact with the child, which he carried to the window, and handed to the men who were waiting on the ladder. He then descended himself, almost suffocated. This gallant act excited the admiration of the bystanders, by some of whom it was resolved that a subscription should be entered into for the purpose of signifying to Mr. Bagshaw their appreciation of his noble conduct. He is one of the firm of Bagshaw and Son, cabinet-makers, Thomas-street.

SUDDEN DEATH OF THE RADCLIFFE OBSERVER.—Manuel John Johnson, Esq., M.A., Magdalen Hall, Oxford, Radcliffe Observer, died at the Observatory, on Monday evening, between six and seven o'clock, while conversing with his medical adviser, Mr. Briscoe. Mr. Johnson had complained of being rather poorly, and immediately afterwards, in the presence of Mr. Briscoe, fell into a chair and died, the cause of death being disease of the heart.

NEW CHURCH AT TWICKENHAM.—At a meeting held at the residence of Rear-Admiral Sir H. L. Baker, Bart., at Richmond, a committee was formed for the purpose of taking steps to secure the erection of a church on the site set apart by the Conservative Land Society, on the St. Margaret's estate, at the corner of the St. Margaret's drive and Ailsa road, at the entrance of the Richmond road. The following gentlemen have consented to act as trustees:—Lord H. Cholmondeley, Rev. Edward Hearn, Mr. Henry Posnall, Mr. C. J. Bevan, and the Hon. Captain Maude. The necessity for the erection of this edifice is becoming more and more urgent, especially since the occupation of Lord Kilmorey's mansion, sold by the society to the Royal Naval Female School, the residents in which alone form the nucleus of a congregation.

THE NEW CANON OF WINDSOR.—On Saturday morning last, during the time of Divine service at the Chapel Royal of St. George, and immediately after the psalms, the ceremony of installing the Hon. and Rev. Leslie Courtenay as Canon of Windsor took place. The new canon was ushered from the chapter-room to the choir by the Rev. William Canning and the Rev. Frederick Anson, by whom he was afterwards conducted to his stall with the usual ceremony, and presented with his patent. During the proceedings Dr. Elvey performed a voluntary on the organ, and at the conclusion of the morning service the bells of the Chapel Royal of St. George sent forth merry peals, which were continued throughout the day. On Sunday the Hon. and Rev. Leslie Courtenay read himself in and preached his first sermon at St. George's.

A RAILWAY ACCIDENT, resulting in the deaths of three persons, took place near Redford, between Rugby and Leamington, on Saturday evening last. The 6.30 train from Euston-square, either from the spring of the engine breaking, as one account states, or, according to another, from going at too great a speed round a curve, ran off the rails, down an embankment, and into a ploughed field; the driver, named George Ricketts, the stoker, William Kite, and another stoker named John Pilkington, were killed. A third man, named Clayton, who with Pilkington rode upon the engine though not on duty, had one of his hands cut off.

EXTRAORDINARY ACTION AGAINST A CHEMIST.—At the sitting of the Northern Circuit, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Mr. Justice Willes and a special jury were engaged with a curious case, Black v. Elliott. It was an action brought by a farmer residing near Belford against a chemist at Berwick, to recover the value of a flock of 850 sheep, which were poisoned under peculiar circumstances in the early part of last summer. The sheep, after being clipped, were dipped in a chemical solution bought of the defendant, and afterwards turned out into a field. Immediately after they were put out to grass, the neighbourhood of North Northumberland was visited by a flood of rain, which washed the solution from the fleeces of the sheep. The poison was washed into the grass, of which the sheep ate, and they nearly all died, with a donkey and an ox, which had been grazing in the field. The shepherds also suffered severely from the effects of the poison, which got into scratches in their hands. A considerable amount of scientific evidence was taken on both sides. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £1400.



TANTIA TOPEE'S SOLDIERY.—SEE NEXT PAGE

MR. RICHARD SUMNER FOWLER, M.R.C.S.

THIS gentleman, the physicians' assistant at the Bath United Hospital, has greatly endeared himself to the working classes of Bath by his untiring labours among them generally, and especially during the prevalence of smallpox in that city towards the close of last year. In recognition of his services the working men of Bath have recently



MR. FOWLER, PHYSICIANS' ASSISTANT AT THE BATH UNITED HOSPITAL.

presented him with a testimonial, consisting of a library clock, with a perpetual calendar and barometer, a silver pierced Elizabethan inkstand, an oak chest, and a purse of sovereigns. The number of persons who thus did honour to themselves in honouring Mr. Fowler was about 1500; and the proceedings attending the presentation were, we are told, of a very enthusiastic character, the banqueting-room of the Guildhall being crowded with operatives and their wives.

OKEMOS.

THIS Indian chief—whose portrait we engrave from an ambrotype obligingly forwarded to us by Mr. Justin S. Cressy, of Lansing, Michigan, United States—died full of years at his wigwam, a few miles from Lansing, on the Looking-glass, and was buried, on Sunday, the 5th of December last, at the Indian settlement Shiminicon, Ionia country, on the Grand River, near Portland, about twenty miles north-west from the capital. The following brief memoir of the old chief is by Mr. Rufus Hosmer, editor of the *Lansing Republican*:—

Okemos was a very old man, but of what exact age it is difficult to say; doubtless more than a hundred years. The events of the border warfare on Lake Erie in 1792 were familiar to him, for he was a sort of aboriginal Dugald Dalgetty, and fought both with and against St. Clair and Wayne. He had frightful scars to show for his prowess (for a man of undoubted bravery he certainly was), and one in particular, showing a cicatrix extending from his shoulder downward and transversely, through the clavicle and sternum, was the evidence of a sabre-cut from one of Mad Anthony's troopers. He was a war-chief no less than sixty-six years ago.

Okemos fought at Fort Meigs, and there received wounds in the head which, if had been a white man, would have made his obituary an old story



POTTAWATAMIE OKEMOS KINNE-BOO, AN INDIAN CHIEF OF NORTH AMERICA.

forty-five years ago, but being an Indian they simply left holes in his skull, into which we have placed three of our fingers.

Like "Tamenund of Many Days" in "The Last of the Mohicans," Okemos was a man of much dignity of manner, and, though small of stature, of an imposing presence. He realised something of the ideal Indian in his carriage and deportment, if not in his character. Okemos was familiarly known to most of the Lansing people, young and old, and was wont to pay this place more or less visits every season. Indeed, during the years 1847, '48 and '49, he for the most part kept his wigwam near the village which bears his name, six miles to the eastward, during which years he was in our streets almost daily. Okemos was inoffensive and honest; as sober as Indians generally are, and always affable and ready to communicate the result of his recollections, which were more vivid the farther back he went. Of late years the favourite weapons of the old chief were the knife and fork.

Not being troubled with large earthly possessions, Okemos left no will, and it is doubtful if the very numerous heirs will take out letters of administration. He owed only one debt—that of nature—which he was rather slow about, and took his own time, but paid at last.

They are passing away—that old race of red men, who held once the soil upon which we live and move; and not many years will pass ere "the places which once knew them will know them no more for ever."

"Thick coming fancies" throng upon the brain as we contemplate one now so lately a familiar object, who, far off in the forest, wild, and almost impenetrable, heard by snatches, and all imperfectly, of the war of the Revolution, waged, carried on, and terminated during his lifetime; of the old French war; of the Pontiac war (Okemos was a nephew of Pontiac); of the Border war of the Lakes; and of the war of 1812—all of them begun and ended after he had come to full maturity, and most of them after he was an old man.

THE SHEFFIELD PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY.

THIS valuable addition to the medical charities of our country—the first stone of which was laid on the 26th of July, 1853, by Earl Fitzwilliam, who on the occasion of doing so contributed two hundred guineas to the building fund—has just been completed for the reception of patients. The necessary funds have been contributed by the town trustees, and by many of the principal merchants and others of Sheffield and its vicinity. The idea of founding a second hospital in this large manufacturing town originated with one of the physicians to the dispensary (Dr. J. C. Hall), who has acted as the honorary secretary to the building committee, and to whose untiring advocacy and exertions the success of the scheme is in no small degree indebted. It is satisfactory to know that the hospital in its design has been highly approved by the *Lancet*. The building, situated in an open space in West-street, was erected by Mr. Wood, of Derby, from the design of Mr. M. P. Manning, of London. It contains wards for fifty-one beds, operating theatre, &c., together with residences for the house-surgeon, matron, and servants; also the necessary offices for dispensary purposes.

The venerable W. Fisher, Esq., who for the last sixty



WESLEY CHURCH, LONSDALE-STREET, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA.—SEE SUPPLEMENT, PAGE 233.

years has been connected with every movement for the amelioration of the condition of the masses of the people, is the first president of the institution.

TANTIA TOPEE'S SOLDIERY.

THE Scene which we have engraved on the preceding page represents the soldiery of the rebel forces under Tantia Topee en route. Mounted on lean but hardy tathoos—a race of small horses, capable of extraordinary endurance, which are found in abundance in almost every town and village throughout the country—and encumbered with no commissariat beyond the bag of rice slung at their backs or on the ponies' shoulders, these rebels have contrived on nearly all occasions to outmarch the English troops, and to elude their pursuit.

"Our very remarkable friend, Tantia Topee (says the Special Correspondent of the *Times* newspaper, writing from camp, on the Goontee, Dec. 3) is too troublesome and clever an enemy to be admired. Since last June he has kept Central India in a fever; he has sacked stations, plundered treasures, emptied arsenals, collected armies, lost them, taken guns from native princes, lost them, taken more, lost them; then his motions have been like forked lightning; for weeks he has marched thirty or forty miles a day. He has crossed the Nerbudda to and fro; he has marched between our columns, before them, and behind them. Ariel was not more subtle, aided by the best stage mechanism. Up mountains, over rivers, through ravines and valleys, amid swamps, on he goes, backwards and forwards, sideways and zigzag-ways; now falling upon a post-cart and carrying off the Bombay mails; now looting a village, headed, and turned, yet evasive as Proteus. One knows not when to have Tantia Topee. If any one does, I wish he would tell Brigadier Parkes, who is 'always in pursuit,' or General Mitchell, who is always 'close upon his heels' (they are not Tantia's vulnerable spot); or Brigadier Smith, or any of the half-dozen and one brave officers at the head of a many movable columns who are always about to annihilate our feathered Mercury."



THE SHEFFIELD PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

LIVERPOOL has followed up what Lincoln began so well, and the The Speaker was twice over in his accustomed front place. The first of the Cruisers appeared in the shape of Mr. Tom Parr's Rattlebone, and won so cleverly that Mr. Rarey may find that he has got a very cheap bargain from Lord Dorchester. This is the first time on record that the stock of a horse have been running on the turf while he himself trends night after night the sawdust of a circus. Kingston's stock scored their first three-year-old race with Gladiolus, and, as it was well done with 7 lb. extra, in consequence of his running a dead heat for the Spring Cup the day before, we may begin, at last, to see the white and black sleeves of Colonel Townley as successful under Oates's care, as his Victorias and Butterlys have been in the show-yards, under Joseph Culshaw's. Twenty out of the fifty left in came to the post for the steeplechase. All got well over Beecher's Brook, and then Spring went down, and away, leaving his rider quickly waiting for him at the brook till they came round next time. Gibraltar tumbled into Valentine Brook, and then the Brower, first favourite to the last at 10 to 3, became groggy, and rolled on to his rider. Nanthus and Flateacher, amid immense excitement, were first over the fifteen-foot artificial water jump, into which the Brower rolled again, and retired. Next, Weathercock was seen to break down in spite of his elastic stockings, and to limp back by a short cut. Three were thus wholly out of the race; and then Half Caste (9st. 7lb.) began to show well to the front, and led into the course with only six in attendance. Near the last flight of hurdles, the French mare, Jeanne du Quesne (9st. 9lb.), challenged him, but Half Caste was first over, and just won a very gamely-contested race by a neck; Huntsman (11st. 2lb.) third, and Midge (9st. 4lb.) fourth. After all the varied incidents, there was no injury to horse or rider. The Nottingham meeting is on Tuesday and Wednesday next; and Spicebox (5lb. ex.) and Pescatore, which was backward at Lincoln, are both in the Little John Stakes. Derby has also a mixed day to follow.

The new *Book Calendar* gives a very cheering view of turf prospects. One two-year-old of Mr. Merry's (Brother to Rainbow) is engaged fifty times already; and two others, Trovatore and Lady Falconer, forty-six and forty-two times respectively. A yearling (Cantatrice) belonging to the same gentleman, is in for twenty-five; but, so far, Vir, the first-born of Virago, is only in two stakes, and those at Newmarket. Lord Glasgow has about twenty-one matches on hand, with £4150 as their half forfeits; while Mr. F. Robinson has nineteen, with £4250. One of the latter is for £2000, h. ft. The lame Clarissa colt has been named Young Melbourne, and Lord Glasgow has matched three of his produce for 1862 against three by Sir Joseph Hawley's new fancy, Charleston, who is to bring back the Fleur-de-Lis strain into England. Old Melbourne is not dead yet, and thus the newspaper elegies upon him have been wasted. Toldington's subscription is full; and Ignoramus's dam, Omoo, and Ayacora, are among the arrivals at Voltigeur's paddocks. The Americans have offered 1200 gs. for Oulston, but we believe that no bargain has been made; and Ralpho's dam has had a splendid colt foal to Fandango, who bids fair to do much for English stud farms.

Mr. Rarey has had a very great reception in Berlin, where his levées have been attended by some three hundred subscribers, and on one occasion no less than four Princesses, with their Consorts, were among his audience. A regular Cruiser the Second was found for him on February 21, and the cavalry mess were so determined to defeat him, if possible, that they entered into a subscription to have the horse brought up from the interior of the country—a task of the most enormous difficulty. He was a large powerful sire of the French-Normandy breed, and two grooms and a muzzle could scarcely keep him in decent order before he was handed over to do battle. However, he gradually gave in, and became one of the most dutiful of subjects, both in legs and mouth. The audience gave three cheers when all was over. Mr. Rarey has prolonged his stay beyond the original time in Berlin, but he is at present, we believe, in St. Petersburg.

The Waterloo Cup was divided between Mr. Jardine's brace of "brilliant blacks," Clive and Selby—an honour which has never fallen to any owner before. They are, strange to say, representatives of the Judge and Barrator blood, which has gone well away from everything else in the Coursing Record of this season. Baffle and Pugilist each won three courses, and then were drawn lame, after a "no-go." Java, by Judge, and the property of the old dog's owner, beat the celebrated Regan, by Barrator, for the Waterloo Purse. Fortunately as Mr. Randell is elsewhere, his cracks go down strangely over Altair on the Waterloo days, and Mr. Borron's luck is equally bad. The Waterloo Purse was won by Omega, by Sackcloth; and Deacon and Sunbeam, as if ashamed of themselves, showed their old fire in each of their first two courses. Unhappily, both got put out in their third course, or they would have come together in the next tie for the most interesting struggle of the year. The North of England Club (Belsay) have fixed their meeting for Monday; Ashdown Park Champion is on Tuesday, &c.; Lanark open on Tuesday and Wednesday; and Coquetdale Club (O) on Tuesday, &c.

Hunting goes on favourably; but there has been a good deal said about fox-trapping in certain covers of York and Ainsty, where the keepers seem to have been very free with traps and shot. Norfolk really sets a pattern to other hunting counties, and the enthusiasm with which they have formed two packs in the course of two years, in the teeth of most rigid pheasant-preservers, is beyond all praise. The report of the dinner is quite refreshing, and points a moral for the great family of the fox-hunting Lukewarms. The Atherstone hounds, about sixty couple, and thirty horses, are to be sold at the kennels on the 28th of April; and it is said that part of the Harboro' country will be annexed to Lord Stamford's.

LIVERPOOL SPRING MEETING.—TUESDAY.

Trial Stakes.—The Speaker, 1. Lifeboat, 2. Handicap Plate.—Blarney, 1. Weatherwise, 2. Tyro Stakes.—Rattlebone, 1. Madrid, 2. Liverpool Spring Cup.—Gladiolus walked over. Optional Selling Stakes.—Rhisus, 1. Stir Pudding, 2. Aintree Plate.—The Speaker, 1. English Rose, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

All Aged Selling Stakes.—Lady Eglinton, 1. Heloise, 2. Sefton Handicap.—Gladiolus, 1. Ambush, 2. Grand National Steeplechase Handicap.—Half Caste, 1. Jean du Quesne, 2. Handicap Plate.—Ancient Briton, 1. Weatherwise, 2. Selling Stakes.—Mushroom, 1. Rhisus, 2.

THE INTERMEDIATE SHAFTS OF THE "GREAT EASTERN."—(To the Editor).—I observe in your publication of Saturday last a letter from a civil engineer here correcting a mis-statement in your previous number as to the intermediate shafts of the Great Eastern. Your correspondent is in the main correct, except in so far as he mentions that portions of the second shaft were made available for the present successful one; he has been misinformed on this point, as no part of the second shaft was thus used.—For the Lancified Forge Company, Wm. L. E. McLEAN.

WRECK OF THE "PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM" AND LOSS OF THREE LIVES.—The Saturday night boat from Dover, the *Prince Frederick William*, in attempting to make Calais harbour on Sunday morning, after a rather rough passage, several times fouled the pier, completely demolishing the larboard paddle-wheel, and causing such other serious damage as to disable her, and render her quite unmanageable. It was nearly dead low-water at the time, and the vessel, having got clear of the pier-head, was driven ashore on the east side of the pier, the sea making a complete breach over her. The first efforts of Captain Piddick were directed to the preservation of his passengers, and, having assured them of their safety if they would only observe order and what was directed to them, about four a.m. a life-boat, which had recently been presented to the inhabitants by the Royal National Life-boat Institution, came off in a very gallant manner, and quickly reached the steamer. Although Captain Piddick again addressed the passengers, and reassured them there was no danger, it is stated that the moment the life-boat came alongside they rushed headlong into it, quite heedless of all cries for them to wait. One of the saved, in a letter to the *Times*, states, on the contrary, that he was unwilling to get into the boat till told by the crew that he must; but, however this may be, the boat was soon overcrowded and upset, and the whole of the occupants were thrown into the sea. The *Ontario* steamer, having come up at this critical time, succeeded in saving the boatmen and many of the passengers, but three were drowned. In the course of the morning the wind and sea subsided, and the officers and crew were enabled to walk ashore. The mails were got out, although in a wet condition, and forwarded. [We shall give an illustration of this deplorable event next week.]

MINISTERIAL CHANGES.—In consequence of a difference of opinion as to the Reform Bill which was introduced into the House of Commons on Monday evening Mr. Walpole and Mr. Henley have retired from the Cabinet. Mr. Walpole is succeeded as Secretary of State for the Home Department by Mr. Sotheron-Estcourt, President of the Poor-law Board, and Lord March replaces Mr. Estcourt. Mr. Henley has been succeeded as President of the Board of Trade by Lord Donoughmore, Vice-President of the same Department; and Lord Lonsdale, a lay Lord of the Admiralty, replaces Lord Donoughmore. Mr. F. Lygon, M.P. for Tewkesbury, has succeeded Lord Lonsdale at the Admiralty. On Thursday it was announced that Lord Henry Gordon Lennox has resigned his Lordship at the Treasury, and that he would be succeeded by Mr. Peter Blackburn, M.P. for Stirlingshire.

AURORA BOREALIS.—Mr. Lowe gives the following account of a curious auroral arc and large meteor seen at Beaton Observatory on the night of the 23rd ult.—"From a quarter past seven p.m. there was a magnificent display of Aurora Borealis, being most brilliant at half-past seven, when a perfect rainbow of light crossed the northern sky, interspersed with vivid conceptions. At 11h. 20m. 31s. p.m. a magnificent meteor, about one-fifth of the size of the moon, moved slowly from Tau Ursæ Majoris to E. a Uge Majoris. It increased rapidly in size and brightness, and was pear-shaped, well-defined, and intensely blue, leaving streaks of light along its path. It suddenly broke up into separate yellow fragments. Duration, eight seconds. Place of disappearance.—Night ascension, 13h. 41m.; declination, 50° 1' N. There was a curious arch of detached streams of aurora at the time.

PREFERRMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS IN THE CHURCH.—*Rectories and Vicarages*: The Rev. W. B. Chester to Nenagh, Killaloe; Rev. T. Elmes to Killead, Limerick; Rev. T. F. French to Templeharry, Killaloe; Rev. R. J. Going to Ballymackey, Killaloe; Rev. W. H. Wolsley to Killybeg, Killaloe. *Rectories*: Rev. D. Kitcat to Lasborough, Gloucestershire; Rev. H. B. Mason to Navenby, Lincolnshire. *Vicarages*: Rev. J. Baines, Chaplain of St. John the Evangelist's, Haverstock-hill, to Little Marlow Bucks; Rev. J. F. Franklin to Wharfedale, Lincolnshire; Rev. S. Sturges, Incumbent of Knowl-hill, Barks, and Diocesan Inspector of Schools for the Deanery of Reading, to Wargrave, Berks. *Chaplaincies*: Rev. B. Ring to St. Jean d'Acre; Rev. W. H. Teale, Vicar of Royston, to Sir Lionel M. Swinerton Pilkington, Bart., High Sheriff of Yorkshire. *Perpetual Curacies*: Rev. A. G. Atherley to Alderton, Wilts; Rev. S. S. Frackleton to Maghera-hamlet, Dromore. *Curacies*: Rev. R. R. Chope to Upton Seaudmore, Wilts; Rev. J. Cole to Malborough, Devon; Rev. J. P. Fitz-William Davidson to All Saints', Dorchester; Rev. — Ellison to Timolin, Dublin; Rev. N. Forster to Ayle, Tuam; Rev. G. French to Skreen, Killala; Rev. O. E. Raymond to Bulmer, Essex; Rev. J. M. St. C. Raymond to Belcham Walter, Essex; Rev. G. W. Seppings to Ashford, Middlesex; Rev. J. Williams to Garvaghy, Dromore; Rev. A. Shears to be Missionary at Moulmein, Burmah (S.P.G.); Rev. J. R. Triphook to be Precentor of Killaloe.

Three children at Saxmundham, a local paper states, have narrowly escaped being poisoned by eating a quantity of laburnum seeds which had fallen from a tree growing at the corner of their father's house.

A meeting of the members of the House of Commons was held on Friday at the official residence of the Earl of Derby, in Downing-street. About two hundred and eight members attended. Lord Derby was accompanied by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir E. B. Lytton, and Lord Stanley. It is stated that the greatest unanimity prevailed, and a determination to support the Government measure of reform is said to have been unreservedly expressed.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

NOTWITHSTANDING that the long-pending differences between France and Austria on the Italian question may be considered at an end—the immediate evacuation of the Papal territories having been agreed to—Home Securities have been far from active during the present week, and the advance quoted in prices on Saturday last has not been supported. However, the market may be considered in a healthy state, even though the supply of money stock absorbed by the public has not increased.

On the Paris Bourse the operations appear to have been much restricted, owing to rumours afloat that Lord Cowley's mission to Vienna has not been a satisfactory one. The French funds are, no doubt, much influenced by the numerous commercial failures, both in Paris and in some of the Departments, as well as by much of the Stock being held in weak hands.

The supply of money in the Discount Market is still very abundant; but the demand for it has been more active than for some time past. In Lombard street first-class commercial paper has been done at 2½; four months' bills at 2½ to 2½; and six months' at 3 to 3½ per cent. The lowest rate for short periods in the Stock Exchange is 1½ to 2 per cent—at which, however, very little money has been taken.

The imports of bullion have been about £220,000, including some silver from the Continent, and about £80,000 in gold, recently received from New York, has been disposed of for Germany. At present the Continental exchanges show no profit on the shipment of gold, and at New York the quotation is slightly in favour of this country. The present steamer for India carries out £139,133—£10,178 being gold and £128,955 silver.

The transfer-books at the Bank of England will be closed on the 8th inst., and reopened on the 15th proximo.

A telegram has come to hand to the effect that a new loan has been issued in India, in a Five-and-Three-Quarter per Cent stock. All Government Securities appear to have fallen heavily in consequence.

Although the Sardinian Government is offering the proposed two million loan as low as 7½ per cent, no contractor has, as yet, come forward to negotiate it, either here or in Paris. We hear, however, that £60,000 has been issued in Turin, at the rate just named. The new Austrian Scrip has been 2 to 1½ discount.

It is stated that the new bank for Turkey will be commenced in about two months from this time. One half of the required capital will be raised at Constantinople.

On Monday English Stocks were rather flat compared with Saturday, and prices were rather drooping.—Bank Stock was done at 228½; and India Stock, 221½. The Reduced Three per Cents realised 96½; Consols, 95½ ½; New Three per Cents, 96½ ½; Long Annuities, 1860, 134½; India Debentures, 98½ 99; India Bonds, 18s. to 19s. prem.; Consols for Account, 95½ ½; Exchequer Bills, 34s. to 37s. prem.; Ditto Bonds, 1850, 100½ 100. The dealings on Tuesday were unimportant, and prices closed as follows:—Bank Stock 228½; India Stock, 220; Reduced Three per Cents, 96½ ½; Consols, 95½ ½; New Three per Cents, 96½ ½; New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 80; Long Annuities, 1855, 134½ 136; India Debentures, 99; Ditto Bonds, 16s. to 20s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, 35s. to 38s. prem. Prices fluctuated on Wednesday, yet the market closed somewhat firmly.—Bank Stock realised 228½ 228. The Reduced Three per Cents were 95½ 96; Consols, for Money, 95½ ½; New Three per Cents, 96 and 95½; Long Annuities, 1855, 134½ 136; India Debentures, 99 and 98½; India Bonds, 19s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, 34s. to 38s. prem. On Thursday there was some inactivity in the Consol Market, yet prices were steady.—The Three per Cents, for Money and the Account, were done at 95½ ½; the Reduced and the New Three per Cents, 95½ 96 and 96½; Long Annuities, 18; Exchequer Bills, 35s. to 38s.; and India Loan Debentures, 98½ 99. Bank Stock was 229½; and India Stock, 220 and 222½.

The amount of business transacted in nearly all Foreign Bonds has been much restricted, and, in several instances, a fall has taken place in the quotations. The week's leading prices are as follows:—Brazilian Five per Cents, 102½; Brazilian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 183½, 94½; Ditto, 1852, 94½; Mexican Three per Cents, 20½; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 94½; Ditto, Unbarren, 85; Peruvian Three per Cents, 74; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 100; Spanish Three per Cents, 44; Sardinian Five per Cents, 80; Turkish Six per Cents, 91½; Ditto, New Loan, 80½; Turkish Four per Cents, 105; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 65½; Dutch Four per Cents, 101½; Grenada New Active Three-and-a-Half per Cents, 19½; Venezuela Five per Cents, 43½; Ditto Deferred Two per Cents, 17; Spanish Three per Cents, New Deferred, 29½; Ditto, Committee's Certificates, 5½.

Joint-Stock Bank Shares have ruled firm, and late rates have been fully supported.—British North American, 50; London and Westminster, 48½; London Joint-Stock, 31½; Ottoman, 22½; London and County, 29½; Oriental, 40; Union of Australia, 50½; and Union of London, 24½.

On the whole, the Miscellaneous Market has been steady.—The shares of the Atlantic Telegraph Company have been done at 295 to 297; Anglo-Mexican Mint Shares have marked 15; Australian Agricultural, 32½; Canada Land 122; Crystal Palace, 12; Electric Telegraph, 103; Ditto New, 11; Malak Irrigation and Canal, 12½; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 85½; Atlantic Steam, New Shares, 28½; Submarine Telegraph Scrip, 1; Kennet and Avon Canal, 6½ ex div.; East London Waterworks, 122; Grand Junction, New, 35½; Southwark and Vauxhall, 105; West Middlesex, 104; Vauxhall Bridge, 17½; London Discount, 94½; London General Omnibus, 15½; National Discount, 4½; Netherlands Land, Eight per Cent Preference, 1½; Oriental Inland Steam, 6½; Red Sea and India Telegraph, 8½ ex div.

Colonial Government Securities have been firm in price. Canada Government Six per Cents have marked 114½; New South Wales Five per Cents, 102½; South Australian Six per Cents, 111½; and Victoria Ditto, 111½.

The Railway Share Market—although the total calls for the present month are only £105,830—has been rather heavy, on easier terms. The following are the official closing quotations on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston Junction, 6½ ex div.; Bristol and Exeter, 92½ ex div.; Eastern Counties, 59 ex div.; East Kent, 14½; Great Northern, 101½ ex div.; Ditto, B. Stock, 124½ ex div.; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 104½ ex div.; Great Western, 59½ ex div.; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 94½ ex div.; Ditto, 20 Shares, 6½ ex div.; London and Blackwall, 6½ ex div.; London and Brighton, 109½; London and North-Western, 93½ ex dis.; London and South-Western, 92½; Midland, 98½ ex div.; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 97½; North British, 55½; North-Eastern—Berwick, 46½ ex div.; Ditto—Leeds, 46½ ex div.; Ditto—York, 75½ ex div.; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 31½; South Wales, 70½ ex div.

Lines Leased at Fixed Rentals.—London and Greenwich, 66; London, Tilbury, and Southend, 92; Northern and Eastern Six per Cent, 68 ex div.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Chester and Holyhead Five per Cent, 117½; Eastern Counties, New Six per Cent Stock, 134; Great Northern Five per Cent, 110; Great Western Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 94½; Ditto Four per Cent, 84½; Ditto, Five per Cent, 100; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, Three-and-a-Half per Cent, 70; Midland Four-and-a-Half per Cent Stock, 101 ex div.; North-Eastern—Berwick, 96½ ex div.; North Staffordshire, 23½; South-Eastern—Reading Annuities, 25; Stockton and Darlington, C. Six per Cent, 32½ ex div.

BRITISH POSSESSIONS.—Bombay, Baroda, and Central India, Additional Capital B. 4½; Ceylon, 6; East Indian, 10½; Ditto E. Shares Extension, 15½; Ditto Jubulpore, 5½; Grand Trunk of Canada, 29½; Ditto, Six per Cent Debenture, 70; Great Indian Peninsula, 101½; Ditto, New, 4; Great Western of Canada, 15½; Ditto, New, 8; Madras, Five per Cent, 20½; Scinde, 20½.

FOREIGN.—Bahia and San Francisco, 23½; Dutch Rhenish, 10; Lombardo-Venetian, 8; Ditto New, 7½; Recife and San Francisco, 8½.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE, Feb. 29.—Although our market to-day was again very indelicately supplied with home-grown wheat, in somewhat improved condition, the demand for all kinds ruled very inactive, at last Monday's currency. The show of foreign wheat was less extensive, nevertheless the transactions were comparatively small, on former terms. In the morning cargoes of grain only a limited business was transacted. Barley was in short supply, and steady request at fully previous rates. Malt was firm, and quite as dear as last week. Oats changed hands slowly. In prices, however, no quotable change took place. Beans and peas were tolerably firm in price; but the flour trade was in a depressed state, on former terms.

March 2.—English wheat was dull in sale, and no improvement took place in the demand for foreign qualities. Spring corn was quite as dear as on Monday. In flour very little was doing.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 36s. to 45s.; ditto, white, 36s. to 45s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 38s. to 45s.; rye, 30s. to 32s.; grinding barley, 24s. to 26s.; distilling ditto, 22s. to 23s.; malted ditto, 32s. to 42s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 62s. to 68s.; brown ditto, 50s. to 52s.; Kingston and Ware, 60s. to 68s.; Chevalier, 67s. to 68s.; York-Lincolnshire feed oats, 20s. to 22s.; potato ditto, 20s. to 31s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 19s. to 23s.; ditto, white, 20s. to 22s.; sick beans, 37s. to 38s.; grey peas, 37s. to 39s.; maple, 40s. to 43s.; white, 38s. to 40s.; bolters, 40s. to 42s. per quarter. Town-mill flour, 26s. to 40s.; country marks, 22s. to 31s. per 280 lb.; American, 19s. to 23s. per barrel; French 32s. to 34s. per sack.

Scotch.—Clover seed in steady request, and prices have an upward tendency. Tares and most other seeds, including cakes, are quite as dear as last week. Linseed, English crushing, 54s. to 58s.; Calcutta, 51s. to 53s.; hempseed, 26s. to 28s. per quarter; coarser, 24s. to 26s. per cwt.; brown mustard seed, 8s. to 11s.; ditto white, 12s. to 15s.; spring tares, 9s. 6d. to 12s. per bushel; English rapeseed, 6s. to 6s. 6d. per quarter. Linseed cakes, English, £10 0s. to £10 15s.; ditto, foreign, £9 10s. to £10 10s.; rape cakes, £3 10s. to £3 5s. per cwt.; canary, 55s. to 61s. per quarter; red clover seed, 7s. 4d. to 8s.; ditto, white, 7s. to 8s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6½d. to 7d.; of household ditto, 4d. to 6d. per four-pound loaf.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 40s. 5d.; barley, 33s. 11d.; oats, 22s. 8d.; rye, 31s. 6d.; beans, 42s. 2d.; peas, 41s. 7d.

Old-Grain Week's Average.—Wheat, 41s. 1d.; barley, 33s. 8d.; oats, 22s. 3d.; rye, 32s. 0d.; beans, 41s. 1d.; peas, 41s. 0d.

English Grain sold last Week.—Wheat, 97,929; barley, 76,774; oats, 13,723; rye, 69; beans, 6154; peas, 1415 quarters.

Tea.—The public sales held this week have gone off at full prices. By private contract, owing to the limited shipments from China, a full average business is doing, and common loose Congou is selling at 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per lb.

Sugar.—Good and fine qualities have found buyers to a fair extent, at full quotations; but other kinds have sold slowly, at a slight reduction in value. Refined goods move off slowly, at 5½d. 6d. per cwt. for common brown lump.

Coffee.—Our market generally is steady, at fully last week's prices. The show of samples is rather limited.

Rice.—Nearly all descriptions continue a dull inquiry. In prices, however, no quotable change has taken place. The stock is heavy for the time of year.

Provisions.—Irish butter has changed hands to a moderate extent, on lower terms. Foreign qualities are dull, but not cheaper. In the value of English no quotable change has taken place. Bacon is dull, and inferior parcels are drooping. Hams and lard may be purchased on easier terms.

The demand is wholly confined to immediate wants. In prices scarcely any change has taken place. P.X.C. in all positions, has changed hands at 52s. 3d. to 52s. 6d. per cwt.

Spirits.—The transactions in rum are somewhat restricted; nevertheless, prices are supported. Brandy and grain spirits are held at full quotations; and plain German spirit has sold at 1s. 4d. per gallon.

Oil.—Lined oil is steady, at 22½ 15s. per ton on the spot. In rape very little is doing, at £4 10s. to £4 5s. for foreign refined. Most other oils support previous rates. Spirits of turpentine steady, at 4s. to 4s. 6d.; rosin, 11s. per cwt.

Coals.—Tandem Moor, 11s. 6d.; Eden, 15s. 6d.; Hutton, 17s. 6d.; Caradoc, 16s.; Caspob, 16s. 6d.; Hugh Hall, 15s. 6d.; South Kellie, 16s. 6d.; West Linton, 16s. 6d.; Whitworth, 14s. 5d. per ton.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £2 10s. to £4 10s.; clover ditto, 24 5s. to 25 5s.; and straw £1 4s. to £1 10s. per load. Trade steady.

Hops.—All new hops move off steadily, and prices have an upward tendency, 130s. per cwt. having been paid for East Kent in pockets. Yearling and old qualities are selling slowly, but at very full currencies.

Butter.—The arrivals, eastwise, continue on a liberal scale for the time of year, and the Channel has become rather lively, at from 4s. to 4s. 6d. per ton.

Disposition of the Market.—(Monday, March 5).—We were tolerably well supplied with beasts to-day, and nearly all breeds met with a slow trade, at Monday's quotations. The general quality of the stock was by no means prime. Prime Down sheep were scarce, and in fair request at full prices. Otherwise, the market ruled rather somewhat heavy, at barely late rates. Although the supply of calves was limited, the fair trade was in a sluggish state, at 2d. per lb. for heavy ones. The small milk cows moved off slowly, on former terms. Per 8 lb. to sink the calf.—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 2d.; prime large oxen, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; prime 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 4d.; second quality ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; prime coarse-wooled sheep, 5s. 0d. to 5s. 4d.; prime Southdown ditto, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; large coarse calves, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 6d.; prime small calves, 4s. 10d. to 5d. 4d.; large dogs, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.; small pointers, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 2d.; sucking calves, 12s. to 22s.; and quarter-old store pigs, 18s. to 22s. each. Total supply: Beasts, 1030; cows, 132; sheep, 4255; calves, 132; pigs, 310. Foreign: Beasts, 212; sheep, 419; calves, 65.

Neat and Lendall.—The supplies of meat are moderately extensive, and the trade has become less active, as follows:—Beef, from 3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; veal 2s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; pork, 2s. 6d. to 3s. 2d. per 8 lb. by the carcase. ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23.

BANKRUPTS.

T. W. GUSTANCE, Newcastle upon Tyne, licensed victualler.—D. LOVELL, Northampton, carrier.—J. D. GREENWAY, Taunton, draper.—J. HADWICK and H. JONES, Gracechurch-street, merchants.—H. SPENCE, Birmingham, carrier.—J. HILL jun., Lenton, Nottinghamshire, lace-manufacturer.—W. G. HORNCastle, High-street, Poplar, Middlesex, auctioneer.—T. ADAMS, the younger, Marlborne, Staffordshire, licensed victualler.—J. P. WALKER, Bradford, general dealer.—G. OSWALD, Fishburn, Yorkshire, farmer.—W. IRELAND, Plaistow, Essex, licensed victualler.—J. WALKER, Stockport, licensed victualler.—M. WATSON, Harlepool, innkeeper.—P. CREGLIN, Liverpool, sailmaker.—G. LOCKING, the younger, Lincolnshire, hotel-keeper.—J. NEWTON, Old Malton, Yorkshire, horse-dealer.—J. A. MUNDY, Fulborough, Sussex, coal-merchant.—J. G. TURNEY, Mount-places, Walworth road, grocer and tea-dealer.—S. H. SPLATT, Strand, sailmaker.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

A. S. BRYCE, Glasgow, wire-merchant.—J. H. HUGHESON, Glasgow, timber-merchant.—C. MURPHY, Leith, spirit-dealer.—J. MARTIN, Edinburgh, wholesale stationer.—A. CHRISTIE, Whims of Milton, near Stirling, nail-manufacturer.—A. CAMERON, Inverness, grocer.—A. CAMPBELL, Glasgow, victualler.

TUESDAY, MARCH 1.

BANKRUPTS.

S. HENDER, jun., Salisbury, auctioneer.—O. WOOLTON, West Smithfield, City, ironmonger.—C. H. JONES, Strand, licensed victualler.—J. WEBB, Reading, Berkshire, butcher.—J. J. MESSEUR, Upper King-street, Commercial-road East, optician.—H. E. WOODRUFF, Nottingham, lace manufacturer.—T. SWIFT, Sheffield, grocer.—E. HOYLES, Gungahby, Lincolnshire, grocer.—J. WINSTANLEY, C. HOUGHTON, and G. R. HARVEY, Liverpool, comb manufacturers.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. NEIL (deceased), Glasgow, smith.—S. ASHIE, Edinburgh, fruit merchant.—J. BULLOCK, Kirkcubright, grocer.—D. REA, Dundee, grocer.—Sir J. MALCOLM, Bart., Balbride and Grange, Fifehire.—S. HENDERSON, Holmfield, Kirkcubright, bleacher.

* * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

BIRTHS.

On the 25th ult. (February), at Ipswich, the wife of Captain Edward Fisher, Royal Artillery, of a daughter.
On the 28th ult., at North road, Clapham Park, the wife of W. Evans Nicholas, Esq., of a daughter.
On the 22nd ult., at Borton Hall, Lancashire, the lady Emma Anderson, of a son.
On the 23rd ult., at Linton-place, the Hon. Mrs. Fred. Dymond, of a daughter.
On the 25th ult., at Upper Berkeley-street, Lady Manners, of a son.
On the 28th ult., at Upper Berkeley-street, Mrs. Kreeft, wife of Mr. Siegfried C. Kreeft Consul-General of the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On Wednesday, February the 23rd, at Stretton, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, by the Rev. Philip Hillier, Rector of St. Helier's, Jersey, father of the bridegroom, William Gabriel Deleker, Esq., of Burton-upon-Trent.
On the 23rd ult., at St. John's Church, Angell Town, Brixton, by the Rev. Matthew Vaughan, M.A., Vicar, Henry Lorenz, Esq., eldest son of C. F. Lorenz, Esq., of Hamburg, to Beatrice, third daughter of the late Forbes McNeill, Esq., and niece of the Right Honourable Lord Colonsay of Colonsay, and Sir John McNeill, G.C.B.
On the 2nd inst., at St. Mark's Church, Tollington Park, by the Rev. John Lee, Incumbent, Henry Howell, Esq., of Aldersgate-street, and Belmont Terrace, Tollington Park, to Sarah Frances, widow of the late Robert Sutherland Akerman, Esq., of Old-street, Finsbury, and Kingston, Surrey.
On the 24th ult., at the parish church of Charlton, Kent, by the Rev. Thomas Nolan, R.D., Incumbent of Regent-square, St. Pancras, Harry William, eldest son of the late James Hartley, of Fairy Hall, Ed

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THE VENERABLE JOHN WILLIAMS, ARCHDEACON OF CARDIGAN.

We have much pleasure in being able to give a Portrait of this distinguished scholar, who died at his residence, Bushey Heath, on the 27th of December last, after a protracted illness. He was born at Ystradmeirig, in the county of Cardigan, in 1792, and was the youngest son of the Rev. John Williams, Vicar of that parish, by Jane, his wife, daughter of Lewis Rogers, Esq., of Gelly, High Sheriff for the county of Cardigan in 1753. Educated by his father during his early years, he went to Ludlow School for a few months, where he obtained a scholarship. He then entered Balliol College, and, after a brilliant examination (the éclat of which is still remembered in his college), was placed in the first class of the University list. He was ordained to the curacy of Dirley, in the diocese of Chichester, and was for two years a Master at Winchester College, and subsequently for four years held the same position under that elegant scholar, Dr. Richards, of Hyde Abbey School. He then returned to Wales, having accepted the living of Lampeter from Dr. Burgess, the Bishop of St. David's, and remained there until he was elected Rector of the new Academy of Edinburgh, a post he filled for two-and-twenty years with great success as a public teacher. One of his strongest incentives to exertion had ever been the love of his native land; and, out of pure patriotism, and at great sacrifice to worldly prospects, he went back to Wales, and exerted all his energy (until his health gave way) in the establishment of a new institution in the principality for liberal and classical education, founded by the munificence of the late T. Philipps, Esq., of Brunswick-square, London. He is known in the literary world as both a Greek and Celtic scholar of high reputation, and leaves behind him works of no common power and accurate scholarship, such as "The Life of Alexander the Great," "The Geography of Ancient Asia," "Homerus," "Gomer," "The Life of Julius Cæsar," and many learned treatises on sacred and profane subjects. He survived his wife four years and a half. She was the only child of Thomas Evans, Esq., of Penygarey, in the county of Cardigan, and by her he leaves five daughters, one of whom married Robert Cunliffe, Esq. Our Portrait is from an oil painting, taken in 1841, by Colvin Smith, Esq., R.A., which hangs in the hall of the Edinburgh Academy, and was presented by the pupils of the Archdeacon to that institution.



THE LATE VENERABLE ARCHDEACON JOHN WILLIAMS.

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE CRINAN CANAL.

THE Number of this Journal for February 12 contained an account of the injury done to the Crinan Canal by the bursting of the reservoir—an avalanche of water, rocks, and earth rolling down the mountain side, furrowing a deep watercourse in its way, and instantly obliterating the canal under a mountain of thousands of tons of rocks and stones. In the accompanying Sketch is shown the devastating effects produced by the rush of waters at Dunardrie, looking east. At this point the water, besides breaking through the lock gates, forced a lateral opening into the adjacent reservoir, sweeping back again (increased by its contents) into the canal, which here expands into the form of a basin, and then passed on through two great rents on each side of the next lock. On the right of the Sketch is the highroad, broken away; the two boat-sheds, where the track-boats lie on their slips, thrown down; and the great fall of rocks in the distance stretching across the glen. On the left is the towpath, cut asunder, and the muddy bed of the empty reservoir.

WESLEY CHURCH, MELBOURNE.

SUCH is the name given by the Wesleyan community to the elegant building of which we furnish our readers with an Engraving, copied from a lithograph of great merit, published by Mr. E. L. Robinson, of Melbourne, from the designs of the architect, Mr. Joseph Reed. We believe that we do not exaggerate when we say that this is, without exception, the finest ecclesiastical edifice ever erected by the followers of John Wesley in any part of the world. The necessary funds were obtained from the sale of land originally granted by the local Government in 1840; and which, occupying a very central position, has subsequently become of great value. The estimated cost of the building is £19,000. The foundation-stone was laid in December, 1857, by his Excellency Sir Henry Barkly; and on August 26 the church, having approached completion, was opened for Divine service.

We extract the following description of the church from the Melbourne *Wesleyan Chronicle*:—

The style of architecture adopted is the Decorated Gothic, which prevailed in England from the early part to about the middle of the fourteenth century, and the church, with its numerous pinnacles, large mullioned windows, and other features, fully carries out the characteristics which distinguish that style.

Its material is blue stone, in random courses, with dressings, tracery, and enrichments of freestone and



THE DESTRUCTION OF THE CRINAN CANAL.—THE CANAL AT DUNARDRIE, LOOKING EAST.

cement. In plan the body of the church consists of a nave, with side aisle, chancel, and transept. The entrance has on one side a tower, which is about twenty-six feet square, and which rises to a height of one hundred feet, surmounted by an ornamental octagonal spire seventy-five feet in height. On the other side is a porch, surmounted by a tall conical roof, and between the tower and this porch is an open arcade. Above this arcade is the large front window, highly ornamented with stained glass, as are also the windows in the end of the transept. In the tower and porch are doors into the body of the church, and stairs ascending to the galleries. The external aspect of the side aisles of the church is somewhat novel and highly tasteful. They are divided into a number of bays, each of which has a large ornamented window, for the purpose of lighting the gallery, and a smaller lancet-headed window beneath it, which gives light to the body of the church. All these windows throughout the church have a margin of stained glass. The roof of the nave is divided from that of the aisles by a parapet which is pierced by an elegant ornament, and the whole of the building is covered with slate. At the rear of the church are four vestry-rooms, over two of which is the orchestra, reached by winding stairs rising between them. All the doors and windows have deeply-recessed and moulded joints. The general effect of the exterior of the building is highly pleasing, and the pinnacles, crickets, finials, &c., with which it is enriched give it an air of beauty which cannot fail to secure admiration. The interior of the building harmonises well with its external appearance. There is a gallery three pews in depth all round the building, with an addition of two pews more in the transept. The front of the gallery is boarded with treacery, and is painted in resemblance of oak. On the ground floor, at the northern end of the church, is the communion-table; in front of it, on each side, are the pulpit and reading-desk. These are made of cedar. The seats are also made of cedar, with curved standards; and all the cedar work throughout is French polished. At the intersection of the nave and chancel with the transept the roof is carried in lofty, pointed, and moulded arches, supported on clustered pillars. The roofs of the nave and chancel are likewise supported on arches and pillars, having richly-decorated capitals. The roof is semi-open, being coiled at the collar beam, and divided into squares by the moulded framing. The principal rafters are supported on ornamental corbels, and that portion of them which is seen is moulded and enriched with treacery. At the intersection of the roofs of the transept, nave, and chancel the principals are made to intersect each other, with pleasing effect. The roofs of the aisles are carried on half-principals, resting in enriched corbels. The church is lighted with gas, the present fittings for which are merely temporary. It is in contemplation to make an arrangement for superior fittings, to harmonise with the style of the building. Its extreme length from north to south is 165 feet, and its width from east to west 77 feet. Length of nave, 112 feet; breadth, including side aisles, 54 feet; Length of transept, 70 feet; breadth, 28 feet. Height of nave to springing of roof, 22 feet; ditto to ceiling line, 42 feet. The church is estimated to seat upwards of 1700 persons, and will hold when crowded fully 2000.

THE PRINCE CONSORT'S FLEMISH FARM.

In the Number of this Journal for December 11, 1858 (No. 940), we gave an illustration and description of the Prince Consort's Model Farm at Osborne; and we now have the pleasure of giving some account of the model buildings erected upon the Flemish Farm. The model buildings on this farm, situated in the neighbourhood of Windsor Great Park, belonging to his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, are just completed, and although all the most improved principles in connection with a farm homestead have been introduced here, without reference to expense, the strictest care and economy have been observed in carrying out the works. The buildings embrace stables, cowhouses, bullhouses and yards, calve pens, loose boxes, feeding boxes, with covered yard for fattening cattle, piggeries, spacious sheds for carts and implements, yards and sheds for sheltering cattle, a cottage for the carters and other farm servants, boiler, engine and mill rooms, with granaries over, chaff cutting-room, roothouse, &c.

The cowhouse and covered yard, which are spanned by an elegant roof, form one large compartment of about 100ft. by 60ft., divided by a feeding-passage in the centre 12ft. wide, and communicating at one end with the stable-yard, and the other with the piggeries, cattle-yards, rick-yards, &c. From any point of this passage a view of the several operations at the homestead may be readily obtained, the cowhouse and calve-pens being on one side and the covered or roofed yard on the opposite, for the young cattle. The floor of the yard being on a lower level than the passage, the cattle are seen to great advantage. At the west end of the cowhouse and covered yard are the barns, which are conveniently situated, and have been fitted up with the most approved machinery, supplied by Messrs. Clayton and Shuttleworth, of Lincoln, consisting of an eight-horse power steam-engine and Cornish boiler, a thrashing-machine with winnowing and sacking-machine attached, capable of thrashing, cleaning, weighing, and sacking about sixty quarters of corn per diem; mill for grinding meal; mills for bruising oats, beans, oil-cake, &c.; root cutters and pulpers; also a Smith's patent chaff and litter cutter combined, of the latest improvements. The floors of the cowhouse, passages, piggeries, machinery buildings, fowl-house, harness-room, &c., are laid with English asphalt, as prepared by Messrs. Lawrence. This material has had several years' test at different farm-steadings in the neighbourhood; and, in addition to its neat and cleanly appearance, is found to be very durable. The cart and waggon hovels are conveniently situated at the east end of the buildings. The stables are capacious and airy; adjoining the same is the carters' cottage, with lofty and well-ventilated bed-rooms, which few farm-servants enjoy.

The roofs are uniform in design, being a combination of wood and iron, to appearance very slight, but of great strength. The covering to the roofs is the double Roman tile manufactured by Messrs. Coulthurst, Symons, and Co., Bridgwater; the eaves tile is "Beadon's patent," made by the same firm. These tiles are an important covering to buildings of this description, as they are warm in winter and cool in summer; the eaves tile not only serving for carrying off the water, but is an ornamental finish to the walls. Glass tiles made to the same pattern as the clay tile, for lighting the various buildings, can readily be fixed to the roofs as ordinarily constructed.

Drinking-troughs are placed in the several yards and feeding-boxes, and water laid on the same, for the use of the cattle.

The whole of the liquid manure from the open cattle-yards is collected and conveyed by iron pipes into a large tank, and thence it is so arranged that the contents may be discharged over the fields adjoining.

All the bricks were made on the ground by the same contractors as the building, attention being paid to the different-shaped bricks required, so as to obviate unnecessary cutting. The doorways, piers, &c., against which the cattle may be likely to come in contact, are built with round-nosed bricks; for doors, windows, gables, &c., bricks were properly moulded, thereby avoiding great waste and labour.

The whole of the builders' work was carried out by the contractors, Messrs. J. and R. Lawrence, of Waltham St. Lawrence, Twyford, Berks.

CHEMICAL PATHOLOGY OF THE BRAIN.—Chemical and pathological research has established that in certain depressed and deficient conditions of cerebral and mental power there exists in the brain the minimum amount of phosphorus. The brains of idiots have been found entirely destitute of this chemical agent! A similar deficiency is perceived in advanced age, and in the early periods of life, when the encephalon is supposed to be either in an inactive condition or not (as far as the intellect is concerned) in a mature state of development. When carbon exists in excess in the blood the cerebral power is depressed, owing, it is surmised, to the excess of carbon and soda interfering with that union of phosphoric acid and the fatty matter of the blood necessary to the perfect organisation of healthy nervous tissue. Nervous matter is formed in a manner analogous to that in which bile is produced, either, as Liebig suggests, by the separation of a highly-nitrogenised compound from the elements of the blood, or by the combination of a nitrogenised product of the vital process with a non-nitrogenised compound (probably a fatty body). It will be the duty of those specially engaged in the investigation of idiocy, insanity, and other affections of the brain and mind, to ascertain, by a series of carefully-executed experiments, whether the oleo-phosphoric acid and other essential and important brain-elements do not, in certain conditions of nervous ill-health, pass rapidly out of the system, in the various excretions, in which the microscope at once detects it. It is difficult to realise, with our ideas of mental identity and unity of consciousness, this constant wear and tear, waste and regeneration of the nervous structure of the material instrument of the mind. The loss of brain-matter from anxiety, disease, and undue exercise of the cerebral functions, is very great. It is the province of therapeutics to point out the most effectual mode of assisting nature in her conservative efforts to arrest and repair the loss of substance sustained by the brain in certain abnormal states of that organ.—*Dr. Forbes Winslow on Insanity.*

AN INTERESTING DISCOVERY, both as regards history and military archeology, has (we are informed by the *Bulletin*) lately been made in the Island of Cyprus. In the beginning of last December Ali Pasha, General of Artillery, was charged by the Ottoman Government with visiting the various fortified places in the Islands of Rhodes, Cyprus, and Cos, and, while executing certain works at Nicosia, he found among the ruins of some old fortifications a well-preserved funeral cavern, at the bottom of which was a stone with an inscription in Latin. Though somewhat defaced, this inscription was found to be to the following effect:—"Here lies the body of John Peter Corsini, General of the army of the King of Cyprus, who died the 5th of March, 1358. He, by the King's orders, constructed the fortifications of Nicosia." Undoubtedly this inscription is an outline of the fortifications referred to. The Prince alluded to is evidently Hugo IV., the eighth successor of Guy de Lusignan, first King of Cyprus.

A public subscription has been begun and very liberally responded to by the merchants of Leith, for the purpose of erecting an ornamental water fountain at the junction of Bernard and Constitution Streets, fronting the Commercial News Room.

SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

It is certain that the Session of 1859 will be memorable in the annals of the British Parliament. Among the minor "notabilia" it will probably not be forgotten that it was not till the 24th of February that the House of Commons showed any real symptoms of vitality—an unusual if not an unprecedented circumstance. From that evening a torpor, the cause of which was not on the face of it explicable, was shaken off, and events were crowded into the space of a few days which must be fruitful of results. On that evening the member for Midhurst, with patriotic reluctance, bid a pathetic farewell to a Legislature which he tearfully inferred was about to lose a guiding-star, but which could only see his inflated valediction from a laughable point of view. On that evening what may be termed the first blood of the Session was drawn by the Opposition, by their contriving to leave the Government twice in a minority. Then it was that Lord John Russell, in a speech which was for him wildly impressive, made a startling effort to step from the apex of that triangular leadership of the House which has perplexed and complicated the state of parties; and, by consent of a large section of his listeners, stepped on to a base of his own, the firmness or weakness of which a little time will show. In immediate succession, on the next night, followed that short, sharp discussion on the now ticklish question of Government patronage, in connection with the consular establishment in Japan, which elicited a smooth audacity from Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald which he has not hitherto ventured to display, and which subsequent incidents induce one to believe denoted a foregone conclusion in his mind with regard to Ministerial eventualities. For the first time Lord Palmerston was moderate and civil on a question of foreign policy, and handled Government with a gentleness and forbearance which tallied significantly with his reticence and the reserve of his immediate followers on the occasion of the introduction of the Reform Bill, which was inaugurated by a temporary disruption of the Cabinet, and bids fair to lead to a dissolution of Parliament in the first instance, and ultimately to the annihilation of the last Conservative Ministry that can by possibility undertake the guidance of the affairs of the country. Everything thus tended to lead up to the high interest of that occasion. Circumstantial stories were told how Mr. Disraeli and Lord Stanley—who has found an obedient political father in Lord Derby—had succeeded by magical arts, gathered by the former from the Eastern lore of his ancestors, and acquiesced in by the latter because he is Governor of our Asiatic dependencies, in carrying a Tory Cabinet with them on the wildest Liberal resolutions. On the other hand, just as likely accounts had been prevalent of these master-spirits of the Cabinet having been thwarted by the reactionary influence of the dead-weight of a section of their colleagues. The intelligence, however, which greeted the breakfast-tables of the anxious public of the retirement of two leading members of the resistant body among Ministers would have induced a belief that the Jonah-like condition of Mr. Walpole and Mr. Henley had terrified the other malcontents, and made them pause in their meditated leap from a ship which they had at last discovered was bound only towards political filibustering, but for the accompanying sketch of the proposed Reform Bill. If it was a true tale (and no one doubts the statements of the leading journal) at first, it was clear that the consummation of all the gestation of the last six months was ludicrously little. It was palpable that the state of mind of the members, who began to crowd into the house by half-past three, was tending towards the jocose. The flutter and stir of the assembly, which always precede great Ministerial announcements, was not imbued with that tone of grave expectation which ordinarily prevails on moments like this. There was downright frolicking with the petitions, which were as thickly presented as could have been anticipated from a public which takes up reform in Parliament much as a person takes alternative medicine—because he is told that it is good for him, although he has not the least sensation of wanting it. General Thompson, who has long learned to look on legislation which is said to be devoted to the people proper from a droll point of view, typified the spirit of the House when he, with a palpable want of order, described his huge bundle of petitions as comic assertions of the right of the working classes to be permitted to exist in this free country. On the whole, it may be safely asserted that if Peel had come down to a House influenced by such a temper as was predominant on this occasion to declare a grand scheme of policy he would, instead of proceeding with his oration, have resigned on the spot.

Mr. Disraeli entered the house later than usual; and the interval between his taking his seat and his rising was so short (less than ten minutes) that it was clear he had not had time to study and to appreciate the mood of the House. It is impossible on any other grounds to account for the singularly untactful manner in which he commenced his speech. It should be understood that Mr. Disraeli's happiest style, even when making a great speech, is not that which he assumed on Monday night. He is most effective when he is quite colloquial, and when his tone is friendly and familiar even, he comes to a bitter invective or a keen sarcasm. It is when he is displaying clearness of intellect, developed in elegant and pointed conversation with gentlemen opposite, that he best succeeds. Now, it will be intelligible to those who have been accustomed to hear debates in recent years, if it is stated that his manner during the greater part of his speech on this occasion was worse than that of the famous funeral oration on Wellington. He began with an artificial, measured falsetto, which bordered on the lachrymose, and he delivered a succession of poised sentences which were intended to indicate a substratum of political philosophy, which he did not care wholly to exhume for the doubtful benefit of an audience unappreciative for lack of comprehension. The exordium was palpably calculated on the basis of a five hours' speech. Now, the present House of Commons is not likely to bear with a five hours' speech, and still less when it is launched by a dissertation which may be characterised as the "weak stilted." The consequence was that by the time he had spoken for an hour, and contrived to say nothing, he detected the pervading temper of the House—namely, that it was determined to laugh unless he came to business. In this dilemma he had to break suddenly into statements of facts, and having few facts, and those on the whole, of the description which Mr. Bright demolished by designating them as "fancy," he failed in his main object—that of magnifying that which was small, and mystifying that which was palpable, even to the verge of the ridiculous. His oration in its main features interrupted, and his sequences broken, he had to huddle up the fragments any how; and, in order to escape from the laughter which his embarrassment and ill-concealed mortification occasioned, he dashed aside the laboured peroration with which he had been prepared, and, in two or three curt sentences, and with a voice and gesture studiously defiant, flung the bill on the table with an air of angry hopelessness which he has not had to display since his present tenure of office.

For a moment it was thought that the first reading would pass

without comment, and the House emptied rapidly; and members were not likely to be recalled by the apparition of the Scottish member who threw himself into the void, and who seemed to be angry because the measure contained no provision for the erection of a statue to Wallace. It might have been well if the matter had ended with the wrongs of Scotland; for then, perhaps, the future of the Bill might have been predicated in a different sense; or, if the Scotch members had not afforded time for reflection and reflection; for when the House filled again—about ten—Lord John Russell, who was palpably acting in concert with Mr. Bright and Mr. Roebuck (Mr. Drummond's "lovely Thais") beside him, almost outdid his pronounced and indignant speech on the Roman Catholic Oaths last week, and—bidding for the working classes (sonorous cheers from General Thompson), and endorsing Mr. Fox, of Oldham—displayed a zeal to destroy which enraptured the sitters below the gangway, and must have alarmed the Palmerstonians, whose reticence, if one may judge from the course he took, was adopted by the order of their chief. Of course, all eyes turned on Mr. Bright, who looked nonchalant and lazy, let every one who liked rise before him, and seemed to indicate that he had not discovered any "foes to fight with-all." When he did speak, however, there was something that portended organisation somewhere against the Government measure; and Mr. Disraeli must have detected it too, for in his reply there was a strong dash of that reckless insolence which characterised his speech on that memorable night in the winter of 1852 when he saw power about to be wrested from his grasp. In spite of the airiness with which he demeaned himself, it was evident that he felt that he had not gained the confidence of the House; that they looked on him as a dexterous manipulator rather than the exponent of a policy, and that Mr. Crossley, in his lumbering way, had blundered on the truth when that hon. gentleman declared that he was kept in office only until the Liberal party could make up their minds to provide themselves with leaders. Considering that it lasted till a late hour, and apart from Mr. Drummond's fantasies, which any subject can evoke, the debate was singularly free from striking features, from any marked intensity of tone, or any notable episodes; perhaps the most observable was the fact of a member who had only taken his seat on that evening thinking it necessary to take that opportunity of declaring his sentiments. Within existent memory there is only one instance on record of such a course, and that was in the case of a gentleman whose career in Parliament, short as it was, was as troubled and uncomfortable as can well be imagined, and who must have felt, if he could feel at all, immense gratitude to the election committee which eliminated him from an assembly which he had attempted to take by storm, and which soon showed him that in Parliament, as in all other vocations, training is an indispensable requisite. If we were inclined to counsel a neophyte in the House of Commons as to how he should seek its favours—which every one must do—we should say that, above all things, he should avoid letting it be supposed that qualifications outside Parliament entitle him to consideration within it. It would not be very surprising if, in the immediate instance before us, the House were to show that professional audacity, and the fact of being the *enfant gâté* of a populous constituency, count for worse than nothing in making a position in the House of Commons.

There is little doubt that the announcement of the secession of Mr. Walpole and Mr. Henley from the Government increased the difficulties of Mr. Disraeli's position in introducing his measure of Reform; but it is to be questioned if the House was prepared for such a revelation as that which the late Home Secretary made in his explanatory address. Such a sketch of the interior of a Cabinet is probably unique in Parliamentary history. As one listened to Mr. Walpole's sad voice (his general lugubriousness reached the culminating point), and Mr. Henley's still more depressing attempts at being droll, one could not help thinking that the matter which their speeches contained suggested most forcibly the inquiry, how are her Majesty's present Government to carry on?

THE CANADA WORKS, BIRKENHEAD.

In our Number for Feb. 19 we gave Views of the Victoria-bridge in Canada, and a full description of this structure as it now stands. We will now make a few remarks regarding the operations carried on on this side of the water in connection with this great work. Messrs. Peto, Brassey, and Betts, are the contractors for building it, as well as about 600 miles of the line of the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada. To carry out and complete their contracts they erected large works at Birkenhead; here all the ironwork for all their Canadian bridges has been made.

The weight of iron in the Victoria-bridge is ten thousand tons, which is just the weight of the iron in the *Great Eastern*. There are 33,000 plates (with the necessary covers or butt-plates) and 450,000 feet of T and angle irons. To connect this enormous mass of iron plates together, there will be about two millions of rivets, and about six millions of holes punched. Some years ago such a large wrought-iron superstructure as the Victoria tubes would have required from seven to ten years to have executed; but, from improvements in machinery, and the greater experience in this description of work, the Victoria tubes, although only commenced in August, 1857, will, unless some unforeseen casualty occur, be completed fixed in their places in October or November next. The contractors shipped from their works last year at Birkenhead nearly five thousand tons. In the course of the next two or three months three thousand tons, completing the whole of the iron required for the bridge, will be shipped. Each tube is nineteen feet high at each end, gradually increasing to twenty-two feet six inches in the centre. The width of each is sixteen feet, or nine feet six inches wider than the rail track, which is five feet six inches—the national railway gauge of Canada. In fitting and adapting the tubes and the innumerable pieces of iron required, the nicest judgment had to be used, and the closest calculation made. Every point has been thoroughly examined and fully considered; as, for instance, the extreme heat and cold of Canada have been provided for (as regards the contraction and expansion of the iron) with various contrivances, showing great ingenuity and scientific ability. Mr. James Hodges, the agent and chief engineer of Messrs. Peto, Brassey, and Betts, in Canada, has surmounted the never-ceasing obstacles and difficulties of every kind with consummate skill, untiring energy, and indomitable courage, which cause Englishmen to be admired and respected in every part of the world. And if, as has been stated, it is her Majesty's intention to bestow some marks of honour in recognition of the completion of this stupendous work, there would be no man more thoroughly worthy of such a distinction than Mr. Hodges.

At the Canada Works, Birkenhead, not only the ironwork for the bridges upon the Grand Trunk has been manufactured, but also nearly all the two hundred locomotives required for working the railway, as well as large numbers of locomotives for railways in other parts of the world. Some idea can be formed of the extensive operations carried on at this establishment from the fact that the wages paid there amount to £2500 weekly.

Her Majesty has appointed George Staunton Morrison, now Secretary in China, to be Consul at Nagasaki, in Japan; Charles Pemberton Hodgson, Vice-Consul at Caen, to be Consul at Hakodadi, in Japan; and Beaumont Hotham to be Consul at Calais. The Queen has approved of Mr. Theodore Frean as Consul at Belfast for the United States of America, and of Mr. Garrett Kilkelly as Consul in the Island of Barbadoes for the Free Hanseatic City of Hamburg.

THE "GREAT EASTERN."

COLONEL FULLER (*Belle Brittan*), who is now in London throwing off a series of brilliant sketches for the *New York Times* and the *New Orleans Picayune*, has visited the Great Ship, and given the following pleasant impressions which we extract from the first-named paper:—

"THE 'GREAT EASTERN'! I have seen her, the architectural wonder! the mechanical monster of the age! and wandered for hours over her rail-like decks, and through her Mammoth Cave-like compartments. But her 'vast' dimensions baffle description. Like the Falls of Niagara, neither words nor pictures can do justice to the subject. We can only give a few figures of fact, and a few figures of rhetoric, and leave the imagination to conceive and elaborate the sublime idea as best it may. Comparisons may possibly help us a little in attempting to convey some adequate estimate of size and power. The largest ships of the line lying alongside the *Great Eastern* look like children's toys. She seems like a continent among islands; a leviathan among minnows; a pyramid among pins. She is more than an eighth of a mile long, and over twelve thousand tons of iron have been used in her construction. But will she ever be finished, and when? And what then? These are questions which everybody is asking, and these I propose to answer, so far as I have been able to gain information; and, fortunately, I have had an admirable opportunity for 'consulting the authorities.'

"The ship is now lying at Blackwall, opposite Greenwich, lengthwise in the Thames, in the spot where she was anchored on the day of launching. She is not open to public inspection; but Mr. Herbert Ingram, M.P., the proprietor of the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS*, who is one of the most active directors in the new *Great Eastern* Company, kindly proposed a visit to the ship, and made up a pleasant party for the purpose. We found Captain Harrison on board, who has lived in the ship for the last three years, and who knows every rib and joint in her anatomy. All the money requisite for her completion is ready in bank; and all the contracts for finishing and furnishing will be concluded before the end of the present month. Only forty mechanics are now at work; but on the 1st of March there will be, at least, a thousand—carpenters, painters, riggers, upholsterers, &c.—employed; and the ship will be ready for sea on the 1st day of July next, when, after showing what she can do in 'a grand excursion,' she will point her mighty prow towards Portland, U.S. The new directors are men of great energy and practical talent. Mr. Ingram and Mr. Campbell, both members of Parliament, are investing large amounts of capital in the ship, under the conviction that she will prove a great commercial as well as mechanical success. Captain Harrison, after eighteen years of experience as a commander of steam-vessels, has unlimited faith in the speed, safety, and profits of the *Great Eastern*; and stakes his hard-earned savings on the result. Of course there are sceptics and croakers who predict all sorts of disasters; but there never was an enterprise, a reform, or an improvement, that did not have to encounter in the outset the sneers of the envious and the doubts of the incredulous. Franklin was laughed at for attempting to catch the lightning; and Morse for endeavouring to send it on errands. Fifty-six years ago, when William Symington made the first successful experiment in steam navigation by sending the little *Charlotte Dundas* from the port of Dundas to Glasgow, a distance of nineteen miles and a half, in six hours, all the world wondered and doubted. Five years afterwards, when Robert Fulton, who had made a trip on the canal in Symington's boat, launched the *Clermont* on the North River, all the old fogies of the city assembled at the Battery to witness the grand failure, and to pronounce the oracular 'I told you so!' In the year 1819, when the *Severn*, a sort of mongrel, half steamer, half sailer, left New York for Liverpool, many were the lugubrious predictions that she would 'blow up' before reaching port; and even as recently as 1838, when the *Great Western* made her first passage across the Atlantic, in spite of scientific theories and the sceptical shrugs of veteran 'Salts,' the practicability of ocean steam navigation could hardly be regarded as one of the established facts and 'received opinions' of the world. And now, behold the *Great Eastern*—the giant oak from the little acorn—the consummate product of half a century!

"The *Great Eastern* will have large and elegant state-rooms for eight hundred first-class passengers, and ample accommodation for thousands of second class. The number of hands in all departments required to 'work her' will be five hundred. She will have three propelling powers—the paddle, the screw, and the sails. Her speed is a question of lively speculation, and betting on her 'time' is likely to run as high as at the Epsom races. As there may be no harm in venturing an opinion, without risking a fortune to back it, I will bet a bottle of Longworth's best 'catwba' that the *Great Eastern* will 'do' the Atlantic inside of eight days; and when the phenomenon reaches Portland she will almost pay for herself by dividing profits with the railroad companies, who will transport hundreds of thousands of passengers to see the show. Parties are already organising here to go out to the States on the first trip; and, if that is successful, she will return crowded with Americans, who will find life on board the Great Ship, at least more novel, and certainly not more expensive, than at Newport or Saratoga. She will carry a full cotillon band, and a complete printing-office; and a lively stable has been suggested. The ship will be brilliantly lighted with gas; orders will be conveyed by electric telegraph; and her track across the ocean should be distinctly marked on the charts, so that all other craft may give her as wide a berth as they would a rocky coast with a gale blowing in. And I take the liberty of respectfully suggesting to the British and to the United States' Governments that the *Great Eastern* should be allowed to send respectively a member to Congress and a member to Parliament. Surely such an institution is as much entitled to representation as the 'Vanderbilt' or the 'Galway line,' both of which have carried their 'members.'

"The day's journeyings and wanderings over the mountainous, cavernous ship prepares us to relish a dinner at the Trafalgar, Greenwich. And such a dinner! Fish, fish, fish, in course after course; and every dish so different from the preceding one as to create a new appetite. How the palate loves variety! And the art of tickling it is the great secret of cookery. I thought I had done with fish, and finished everything finny, when on came a sole omelet. 'O ye gods and little fishes!' how I pitied poor Apicius, the old Roman gourmet, who never tasted this; he lived and died too soon! Sailors, astronomers, clockmakers, and mapmakers, may remember Greenwich as the place from which we 'take time' and 'reckon longitude,' while others may associate it with hospitals, pensioners, Nell Gwyn, Jack Cade, Wat Tyler, the birth of kings and queens, and other historical trifles; but in my fond memory that immortal sole alone shall live, unmixed with baser matters. A pleasant drive to town, and a nice supper at the Reform Club; but no more eating. There are reminiscences of pleasure too sacred to be disturbed."

CHESS.

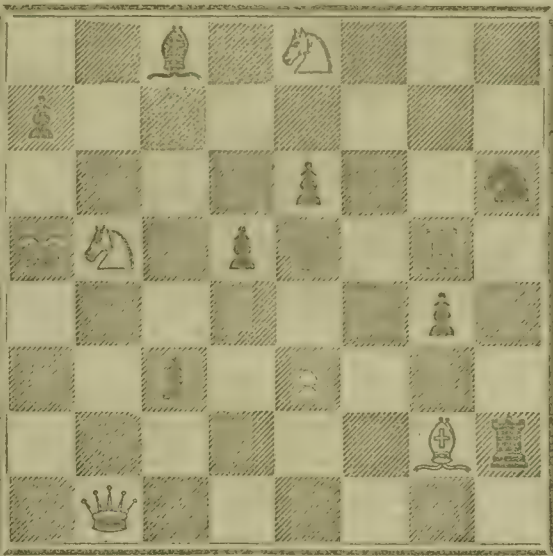
TO CORRESPONDENTS.

G. G. Canada West.—The game played by telegraph between three members of the St. Catherine's Club against five of the Hamilton Club, and won by the former, though presenting some points of interest, is on the whole too weak for publication. Let us see the action game, if it comes off.
S. H. A.—Such end-games are possibly more instructive; but they are infinitely less liked than the ordinary problems in three, four, or five moves.
F. J. P. (P. 1000).—It shall be examined.
S. B. A. (P. 1000).—Share us your "first attempt;" they are altogether unsuitable.
* * * The length to which the games run this week compels us to defer the answers to most of the problems.

PROBLEM NO. 785.

By Mr. P. HEALEY.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in our moves.

Match by Telegraph between the Liverpool and Manchester Chess Clubs.
Conclusion of the Games.

FOURTH BOARD.

(French Opening.)

WHITE (Mr. Kipping, of Manchester.)	BLACK (Mr. Soule, of Liverpool.)	WHITE (Mr. Kipping, of Manchester.)	BLACK (Mr. Soule, of Liverpool.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 3rd	42. K R takes B	K R to Q sq
2. P to Q 4th	P to Q 4th	43. Kt to Q Kt 3rd	K R to Q 4th
3. K B to Q 3rd	P takes P	44. Kt takes Q R P	Q R to Q 2nd
4. B takes P	Kt to K B 3rd	45. Kt takes P	Q R takes R P
5. Q B to K Kt 5th	B to K 2nd	46. R takes K R	K to B 3rd
6. B takes Kt	B takes B	47. R to Q 7th (ch)	B to Q 3rd
7. P to Q B 3rd	P to Q B 3rd	48. R to Q B 7th	B to Q 3rd
8. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to Q 2nd	49. Kt to Q Kt 5th	B to Q 3rd
9. Kt to Q R 3rd	Kt to Q Kt 3rd	50. P to K B 4th	R to Q 4th
10. Castles	Castles	51. Kt to Q B 6th	R to Q 4th (ch)
11. Q to Q 3rd	P to K Kt 3rd	52. K to B 2nd	R to Q 7th (ch)
12. Q Kt to Q B 2nd	B to K 2nd	53. K to K sq	R to K 7th
13. Q Kt to K 3rd	B to K Kt 2nd	54. Kt to Q 8th	R to K 7th (ch)
14. Q to Q B 2nd	Kt to Q 4th	55. K to Q sq	R to K 2nd
15. K R to K sq	Q R to Q B sq	56. R to Q B 3rd (ch)	K to K 2nd
16. Q R to Q sq	Q R to Q B 2nd	57. Kt to K 6th (ch)	K to R 3rd
17. P to K R 4th	Kt to K B 5th	58. Kt to K B 8th	R to K 2nd
18. P to K Kt 3rd	B to Q 4th	59. K to K sq	K to R 4th
19. Kt to K Kt 2nd	B to Q sq	60. K to B 2nd	B to Q 6th
20. Q to Q R 4th	P to Q Kt 4th	61. Kt to K 6th	R to K 2nd
21. Q to Q Kt 3rd	Kt to K B 3rd	62. R to Q 6th	B to Q 5th
22. Kt to K B 4th	Q to Q 3rd	63. K to B 3rd	B to Q 6th
23. Kt to K 5th	Kt takes B	64. Kt to K B 8th	R to K 2nd
24. K R takes Kt	R to Q sq	65. Kt to Q 7th	B chs at K 5th
25. Kt from K 5th	P to Q R 3rd	66. K to B 2nd	K to R 3rd
26. Q R to K sq	P to Q R 4th	67. Kt to K B 6th	R to Q 2nd
27. Kt to Q B 5th	Q R to K 2nd	68. Kt takes Q P	B takes Kt
28. Kt from K B 4th	K R to K sq	69. R takes B	R takes P
29. P to Q R 4th	P to Q Kt 5th	70. R to Q 8th	K to K 2nd
30. Q to Q B 4th	P takes P	71. K to K 2nd	K to B 3rd
31. P takes P	Q to Q 4th	72. R to Q 6th (ch)	K to K 2nd
32. Kt to Q Kt 2nd	Q R to Q R 2nd	73. P to Q 5th	R to Q 6th
33. Q to Q 3rd	Q to Q sq	74. K to K R 3rd	R to Q 8th
34. P to K R 5th	Q to K Kt 4th	75. R to Q 8th	K to B 2nd
35. P takes P	R P takes P	76. P to Q 6th	K to K 3rd
36. Q to K B 3rd	Q to Q 4th	77. K to R 4th	K to B 3rd
37. Kt from Q Kt	P to K B 4th	78. K to R 3rd	K to K 3rd
2nd to Q 3rd	Q takes Q	79. P to K Kt 4th	R to Q 5th
38. K R from K 4th	Q takes Q	80. K to K 3rd	P takes P
39. K R takes Q	Q R to K 2nd	81. K takes P	R to Q 4th
40. K R to K 3rd	Q R to K 2nd	82. P to Q 7th	K to K 2nd
41. Kt to K 5th (ch)	B takes Kt	83. R to K Kt 5th	K takes P
		84. R takes I	K to K 2nd
		85. P to B 5th	K to B 2nd
		86. K to K 5th	R to Q 8th

THIRD BOARD.

(Philidor's Defence.)

WHITE (Mr. Schull, of Liverpool.)	BLACK (Mr. Hamel, of Manchester.)	WHITE (Mr. Schull, of Liverpool.)	BLACK (Mr. Hamel, of Manchester.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	22. R to K B 4th	Q to K Kt 4th
2. K Kt to B 3rd	P to Q 3rd	23. P takes Q Kt P	P takes P
3. P to Q 4th	P takes P	24. R to K B 3rd	P to Q Kt 5th
4. Q takes P	Kt to Q B 3rd	25. Q Kt to K 2nd	R to K 4th
5. B to Q Kt 5th	B to Q 2nd	26. B takes R	P takes B
6. B takes Q Kt	B takes B	27. P to Q B 3rd	P takes P
7. B to K R 5th	P to K B 3rd	28. Q Kt P takes P	P to Q sq
8. B to K R 4th	Kt to K R 3rd	29. Q to Q Kt 3rd	R to Q B 5th
9. Kt to Q B 3rd	Kt to K B 2nd	30. Q to Q Kt sq	B to Q 4th (ch)
10. Castles on K's side	B to K 2nd	31. K to R sq	Kt to Q 3rd
11. Q to Q B 4th	Castles	32. R to Q 5th	R to Q B sq
12. K Kt to Q 4th	B to Q 2nd	33. K R to K B sq	Q to K 6th
13. P to K B 4th	P to Q B 4th	34. Kt to K Kt 3rd	Q takes Q B P
14. K Kt to K 6th	B takes Kt	35. K R to Q sq	Q to Q 6th
15. Q takes B	K R to K sq	36. Kt to K 5th	B to Q 5th
16. Q R to Q sq	Q to Q B sq	37. Kt to K Kt 3rd	P to Q B 6th
17. Q to Q B 4th	Q to K Kt 5th	38. Q to Q B 2nd	Q to Q 7th
18. B to K Kt 3rd	P to Q R 3rd	39. Q to Q B sq	P to Q 7th
19. P to Q R 4th	B to K B sq	40. R to K B sq	Q takes Q
20. Q to Q 5th	Q R to Q Kt sq	41. R takes Q	B to Q Kt 7th
21. P to K B 5th	P to Q Kt 4th	42. Kt to K 2nd	B takes R

And, after a few more moves, White surrendered,—the result giving:—
LIVERPOOL .. 3 .. MANCHESTER .. 1
DRAWN .. 1

CHESS IN INDIA.

The following game between the veteran JOHN COCHRANE and his old antagonist, MOHESCHUNDER, will be played over with interest at this moment when attention is so much directed to the opening which it illustrates:—

(Philidor's Defence.)

WHITE (Mr. C.)	BLACK (Moheschunder.)	WHITE (Mr. C.)	BLACK (Moheschunder.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	12. Kt to Q 5th	Q to Q 2nd
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 3rd	13. K Kt to K R 4th	R to B 2nd
3. P to Q 4th	P takes P	14. P to Q B 4th	Q B takes Kt
4. Q takes P	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	15. K P takes B	P to K 4th
		16. K R to K 6th	B to K Kt 2nd
		17. Q R to K sq	R to K sq
		18. Q to K 4th	P takes B
		19. Q to K R 7th	
			(The remaining moves on White's part are quite a la Cochrane.)
		20. Q R to K 4th	P to Q B 3rd
		21. K R takes P (ch)	P takes P
		22. K takes P (ch)	K to his 3rd
			(Had he moved K to his 4th, Mr. Cochrane would have mated him in three moves.)
		23. Q takes B	Q to Q B 3rd
		24. Q to K Kt 4th (ch)	Kt to K B 4th
		25. Kt takes Kt, and wins.	

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Mr. John Nichlin has been appointed to the office of Distributor of Stamps at Derby.

It is proposed to erect a monument to the memory of Dr. John Leyce, at Denholm, the poet's birthplace.

General Sir W. Codrington has issued an address to the Greenwich electors, announcing that he will vacate his seat in April.

The deliveries of tea in London estimated for last week were \$26,642 lb., a decrease of \$3,520 lb. compared with the previous statement. Last year the assessed duty on servants amounted to £192,760; and on carriages to £300,597.

The clipper ship *Lord of the Isles* arrived off Deal on the 27th ult., from Slanghal. She made the passage in about eighty days.

Sir B. Brodie, as President of the Royal Society, has issued cards for two sittings at Burlington House, on April 9 and May 14.

Sir Francis Graham Moon, Bart., has just been nominated by the Emperor of the French Knight of the Legion of Honour.

Mr. Samuel Warren, Q.C., was sworn in a Master in Lunacy before the Lord Chancellor on Friday week.

The Government has resolved to issue a commission to inquire into and report upon the recruiting system of the Army.

The Lord Bishop of Capetown delivered an interesting address on Monday to the Cotton Supply Association, at Manchester, "On the Commercial Resources and Prospects of South Africa."

On Friday se'nnight Mr. Montague Gore delivered a very interesting and instructive lecture, "On Life-boats in Use on the Coasts of the United Kingdom," at the Sailors' Home, Wells-street, Shadwell.

At the meeting of the promoters of the Oxford races, held last week, the following days were fixed upon for the 1855 gathering—viz., Thursday the 20th, and Friday the 27th of August.

The appointment of Sir Robert M. C. Hamilton, Bart., as Provisional Member of the Council of the Governor-General of India, has met with the approval of her Majesty.

Lord John Russell's new bill "to amend and consolidate the laws relating to bankruptcy and insolvency" has just been printed. It contains 452 clauses; the Lord Chancellor's bill contains 180.

It is announced that the sum of £4200 has already been collected in furtherance of the ensuing annual meeting, at Warwick, of the Royal Agricultural Society of England.

Letters received at Frankfurt from Kehl announce that the continuation of the works at the bridge over the Rhine, between Kehl and Strasburg, have been stopped, and the workmen paid off.

The Bishop of London has appointed the Rev. J. H. Hamilton, Incumbent of St. Michael's, Chester square, to the Honorary Prebendal Stall in St. Paul's Cathedral left vacant by the death of the Rev. J. Smith.

A silver medal of honour has been awarded by our Government to M. Antoine Daubuisse, officer of the French Customs, for having saved, at peril of his life, an English sailor belonging to the *Royal Sovereign*.

Mr. George Hunter Cary, of the Chancery Bar, has received from Sir Bulwer Lytton the appointment of Attorney-General of the new colony of British Columbia.

A series of ward meetings are being held in Birmingham to promote a movement for raising by the 1st of June the sum of £10,000, in order to secure Aston Hall and Park to the people of the town.

Earl Fortescue has lately presented a donation of £20 to the Royal Life-boat Institution; and the boat-builders in the employ of Messrs. Forrest, of Limehouse, have forwarded £20, raised by subscription amongst themselves, in aid of its funds.

The Incorporated Society of British Artists has given notice to its members that the days appointed for the reception of works intended for exhibition are Monday the 7th, and Tuesday the 8th of May, after which no works will be received.

Included in the Overland China and Calcutta Mail, which arrived at the General Post Office on Monday, was a mail bag from Bangkok, in Siam, the first ever received in this country. The date of the mail was January 4, fifty-five days since.

The Secretary of State of Wisconsin, U. S., informs the Legislature that of the amount of money expended for public printing during the past three years, about 27,000 dollars was for English, 30,000 dollars for German, and 14,000 dollars for Norwegian languages.

In the Court of Poets, at the Crystal Palace, centre transept, there is now displayed a series of autographs of eminent men, comprising poets, painters, sculptors, musicians, and other celebrated persons, lent to the company by Henry Sanford Bicknell, Esq.

The Postmaster-General has given notice that the addresses on the margin of newspapers must be cut off before the latter can be sent through the post a second time. Obliteration of the original addresses is not deemed sufficient.

On Friday se'nnight the lecture theatre of the Royal Institution was completely crammed to hear Professor Faraday, who chose for his subject the opposite oxygens, discovered by Professor Schonbein. The Prince Consort was in the chair.

Marin Fallon, the man who was convicted at the Westmeath Assizes of being connected with illegal societies, the passwords of which were found upon him, was sentenced on Saturday last to seven years' penal servitude.

There is a bill in the House of Commons (just printed) to relieve high sheriffs from the expense of providing javelin men and other officers to attend the judges of assizes. The sheriffs are now liable to a fine of £200 for not providing a sufficient number.

The Senate of Hamburg has granted a silver medal of honour and 500 francs to M. Pierre Guerelle, commander of a French fishing-boat, for having saved the crew of the Hamburg merchant-ship *Charles Haegemann*, wrecked on the strand at the entrance of the port of Boulogne.

An unexampled amount of activity, we are told, exists at the Mint, in consequence of the great demand for silver coin. Seven presses are constantly engaged in stamping, and they throw off nearly a million pieces per week.

A Supplement to the *London Gazette* of Friday was issued on Monday, containing copies of bankers' returns, in pursuance of the statute, with the names of all the shareholders and partners of each company or firm. The supplement extends to upwards of 160 folio pages.

We understand the improvements to Newhaven Harbour will be shortly commenced, a powerful steam-dredge being expected there immediately, and the Government engineer, Mr. Walker, C.E., being now there taking his necessary surveys and soundings.

The visitors at the South Kensington Museum last week were:—On Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, free days, 4586; on Monday and Tuesday, free evenings, 4780; on the three students' days (admission to the public ed.), 673; one students' evening, Wednesday, 101: total, 10,140.

By a recent decision of the Master of the Rolls, a plan assented to by a majority of the trustees for removing Colston's School, the well-known Bristol educational foundation, to Stapleton, the late episcopal palace, is sanctioned.

The authorities at the Horse Guards have decided on supplying the whole of the troops, both at home and abroad, with an improved blank cartridge for the Enfield rifle-musket; and a general order on the subject was on Monday issued from the Horse Guards.

Accounts from Tchern state that the Shah has ordered that courts of justice, pretty nearly on the European plan, shall be established in all the provinces of the empire, and he has ordered the Minister of Justice to select as principal judges the ablest functionaries of his department.

Professor Morse, who is recruiting his health at San Juan, Porto Rico, has been astonishing the population by erecting a short line of telegraph from the town to a hacienda in the vicinity. The Government of the island had invited him to superintend the erection of lines connecting all the important towns, and the island itself, with St. Thomas.

The Rev. Henry Christmas, M.A., F.R.S., Thursday Morning Lecturer at St. Peter's, Cornhill, and Sunday Evening Lecturer at St. Mildred's, Paultry, has selected for his ensuing Lent Lectures the following subjects:—"Special Sinus and Special Punishments" and "Scriptural Illustrations of Repentance."

Mr. Scholefield's bill for preventing the adulteration of articles of food or drink has been issued. Among its provisions are some by which vestries and town councils are enabled to appoint analysts, who may be required by any one in the district to analyse any article of food or drink, and give a certificate of the result of his analyses on payment of half-a-crown.

The *Glentaner*, of 610 tons, sailed from Southampton on Wednesday week for Moreton Bay, with 257 Government emigrants, under charge of Surgeon-Superintendent Henry Scott. The *Adriatic*, of 455 tons, was despatched from Southampton, on Thursday week, for Table Bay, Cape of Good Hope, with 235 emigrants, under charge of Surgeon-Superintendent Charles William Kitching.



BAS-RELIEF IN THE INTERIOR OF THE MASONIC HALL, EDINBURGH.

MASONIC HALL, EDINBURGH.

THE New Hall of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, the foundation-stone of which was laid about eight months ago with a display of masonic pomp unprecedented, was formally opened and consecrated with masonic ceremonies on Thursday, the 24th inst., by his Grace the Duke of Atholl, Grand Master Mason of Scotland, assisted by the office-bearers and members of the Grand Lodge. Upwards of two hundred "brethren of the mystic tie," including deputies from provincial lodges, met in the hall, which was tastefully decorated. The Revs. A. Bonar and W. Graham officiated as Grand Chaplains. After the ceremonies the Grand Master declared the hall to be duly inaugurated as the Freemasons' Hall of Scotland. In the evening a masonic festival was held under the presidency of the Grand Master attended by about three hundred masons. On the following evening a masonic ball, also took place in the new hall.

The hall is spacious, lofty, and richly ornamented; it is eighty feet long, thirty-eight feet wide, and thirty-six feet high from the floor to the centre of the arched ceiling; the entablature, which is very beautiful, is supported by handsome fluted Ionic pilasters. In the space over the entablature, at the south end, has been placed a very fine allegorical group, representing St. Andrew, supported on either side by Faith, Hope, and Charity; the figures are life size, and are from the studio of Mr. John Thomas, of London. Immediately above the entrance to the hall, at the north end, there is an orchestra with an elegant balcony in front, with a space at the back of the orchestra for an organ. The hall is finely lighted by numerous glazed panels in the roof, and by three large windows in the south end. The latter have inside sashes filled with stained glass, the designs of which were prepared and executed by Mr. James Ballantine, of Edinburgh. A variegated border runs round each of the windows, within which the general groundwork consists of

Scotch thistles, beautifully diapered in blue, and each window comprises three circular emblematical illuminations. The top circle contains lunettes, with angelic figures, adapted from designs by Raphael, with masonic emblems and devices. The central circles contain heads of David, Hiram, and Solomon, the builders of the Jewish temple; and the lower circles, the Edinburgh arms and shield, ornamented with a mural crown, and the shield of the Grand Lodge, surmounted by the ancient Scottish crown.

Mr. Bryce, of Edinburgh, is the architect of this well-proportioned building.

The bas-relief placed over the windows at the south end of the hall displays in the centre the figure of St. Andrew, the patron saint of Scotland, with the cross. On the right are figures emblematical of Faith and Hope, and on the left the emblem of Charity nursing an infant, whilst on a small couch is another little one at play. The whole group reflects much credit on the artist, Mr. John Thomas.



OPENING BALL AT THE NEW MASONIC HALL, EDINBURGH, ON FRIDAY WEEK.



THE BLOCKADE OF LONDON-BRIDGE.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

LONDON-BRIDGE TRAFFIC.

The daily-increasing evil of the overcrowded state of the streets of London, and especially those of the City proper, has met with a great deal of theoretic treatment; but, up to the present moment, little, if anything, has been done towards its amelioration, far less towards its extinction. The illustration which we give of the state of London-bridge in its chronic condition of crowd and pressure will, perhaps, be accepted as a contribution towards the efforts which are in embryo—and, we hope, in progress—towards remedying a situation of things which is taking the attitude of a serious impediment to the movement of social and commercial life in the metropolis. It is but fair, however, to say that the graphic and laughable grouping of the artist, true as it is to the outside of the picture, is to be taken with a qualification as regards the actual position of the traffic on London-bridge, where the first attempt at regulation or order was made. By the simple expedient of stationing policemen at the approaches and along the line of the roadway of the bridge vehicles are compelled to observe a uniform system of progression which, if it does not produce rapidity of movement, and does not enable a belated traveller to be certain of catching a train at the adjoining railway terminus, at least ensures the absence of collision and the surety of reaching the desired outlet within a given time. Except in this instance every wayfarer through our great thoroughfares, and in the City especially, is left to the wild mercuries of rival cabmen and omnibus-drivers to escape the perils of the half dozen middle passages which still exist in the midst of our street traffic; and the chances of advancing at any moderate rate, or of escaping damage—say in a Cheap-side—by a private carriage, are about as remote as can be conceived. It seems to be settled that there is only one mode of relieving our urban highways from their fearful overcrowding, and that is by a system of metropolitan railways, which will take the passenger and other traffic which are hourly converging on the points on which are situated the termini of the great trunk lines out of the contest and struggle of the streets. It is stated, among other good intentions in this respect, that it is a positive fact that we are to have a railway terminus at Charing-cross; for the South-Eastern Company, being pressed by the competition of the East Kent, have determined to proceed with a plan, which has received the sanction of a report of the Board of Trade, for uniting London Bridge station with the Waterloo station, and passing over Hungerford Bridge to a station in Hungerford Market. It need hardly be pointed out what a relief this would be to that west end traffic which now passes through the main arteries of the City, and which would hereafter stoop eastward at West Strand. Arrangements are going on for the carrying out of the project, which is called the West London Junction line, which will give a terminus in the far west. The scheme which has been initiated by Mr. Charles Pearson for a general terminus in Farringdon-street, and which has been taken up by the Metropolitan Railway Company, has still many difficulties to encounter, owing to the supineness of the Great Western and Great Northern Companies to give their necessary co-operation to the plan. Another plan for obtaining access to the City by means of a railway connecting the different great stations is that of Mr. Richard Bell, which proceeds on the design of turning the Regent's Canal into a railway, and then brings a line, without interfering with main streets, from the City-road Basin into Chiswell-street and Finsbury-street. This line would connect the Great Western, London and North Western, Great Northern, and Eastern Counties Railways. In all this there is hope; but, despite the manifest and dangerous nuisance which exists in our present system of street traffic, unless some greater energy and determination is displayed by the public in contributing the means necessary for carrying out the projects which are afloat, it is to be feared that the capability of free locomotion in the streets of London will be reserved for the benefit of another generation, which may not even be the next.

BAS-RELIEF IN THE PRINCE'S CHAMBER, HOUSE OF LORDS—QUEEN ELIZABETH KNIGHTING SIR FRANCIS DRAKE.

The apartment called the Prince's Chamber is an ante-room to the House of Lords. It is situated immediately behind the throne, and two of its doors open on each side of the throne, giving admission to the upper end of the house. In the centre, on the opposite side of the chamber, is a large door which forms an entrance from the Victoria Gallery. It is here that the Queen proceeds on State occasions, and, passing through the Prince's Chamber, enters the House of Lords by the door on the right-hand side of the throne. On ordinary occasions the Prince's Chamber is used as a writing and retiring room by the Peers. It is very handsomely fitted up; and in a central niche on the wall, just behind the spot where the throne stands, within the House, is placed Gibson's statutory group of her Majesty supported by life-size figures of Justice and Mercy. The walls are embellished with emblazoned portraits of the Tudor and Stuart Kings and their relatives; while in the panels immediately below are a series of bas-reliefs in bronze, comprising notable subjects from the history of England. Some of these are still only temporary in their character, the material of which they are composed being only plaster, coloured. The bas-relief of which we give an illustration has been completed in bronze, and is affixed to the panel on the right of the door leading from the Victoria Gallery.

CROLL'S DRY GAS-METER MANUFACTORY, KINGSLAND-ROAD.

The new gas-meter factory of Messrs. Croll, Rait, and Co., in the Kingsland-road, was opened a short time ago under the auspices of the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor. After inspecting the building, the Lord Mayor visited the lower fitting room, which was handsomely decorated with evergreens, artificial flowers, flags, and banners for the occasion, and in which an excellent dinner was laid out upon tables extending the whole length of the spacious apartment on both sides, with a cross table at the head. Here his Lordship addressed the assembled workmen and their wives in a speech of considerable length, detailing the origin, progress, present position, and future prospects of the manufacture of gas.

After dinner the room was cleared for a dance, and the festivities were kept up to a late hour.

The following description of the building is from the *Builder*, Feb. 19:—

The factory contains three floors, of an area of 8000 superficial feet, each floor being supported by cast-iron columns. They are lighted by Roper's patent wrought-iron sashes, filled in with Hartley's patent glass, and are ventilated by flues formed in the external walls, running up to the roof. The whole is divided into the several departments of case-construction, leather-cutting, index-making, and brass-finishing, and completion, affording altogether sufficient accommodation for upwards of 200 workmen. The proving and experimenting room, 64 feet by 20 feet, is lighted by a lantern, is 20 feet high, and ventilated by a large number of ornamental cast-iron panels inserted in the sides of the lantern, communicating with the roof. Adjoining the factory is the smithy and casting-shop, advisedly separated therefrom, the fumes from the casting, as also the smoke from the forge, being carried into a shaft rising 40 feet above the roof of the factory. The offices are next Kingsland-road, and have a frontage of about 100 feet. The design is in the Italian style, executed with red and white Suffolk bricks, with stone dressings and ornaments. In the principal archway a head of Time forms the keystone, and a corbel for supporting a clock, on either side of which are life-size figures of Morning and Night, and above the clock pedestal is a group of figures of Childhood, Manhood, and Age, the whole being symbolic of the lapse of time. These figures have been sculptured by Mr. Robert Jackson, Malpas-hill, from the designs of the architect. The main buildings have been carried out by Messrs. McLean and Bird, Builders, Cornhill-street, New-road, under the superintendence of Mr. William Lee, architect, St. Michael's House, Cornhill.

AN ACTION AGAINST THE LORD CHANCELLOR.—Mrs. Swinfen's action against the Lord Chancellor will be tried in the Court of Exchequer at the sittings after next term at Guildhall as a special jury cause. As, however, special jury causes are not taken at these sittings, the consent of the parties must be obtained. The noble defendant has, it is understood, intimated that he will afford every facility for the immediate trial of the case. Mr. Kennedy, who was counsel for Mrs. Swinfen on the last trial as to the validity of her husband's will, has been retained for her in her action against the Lord Chancellor, whose interests have been intrusted to the advocacy of the Attorney-General.

THE LITERATURE AND EDUCATION OF THE JAPANESE.

(From a Correspondent.)

Whoever walks through the streets of a Japanese town or village will be surprised to observe the number of books exposed for sale in almost every shop. On looking inside he will probably find one or more of the attendants, if otherwise disengaged, busily reading, or listening to something being read by one of the company. In walking through the outskirts of the town it is not unlikely he will come suddenly on a knot of children, seated in a snug corner out of the sun, all intently engaged in looking through some story-book or other they have just bought at a neighbouring stall, and laughing right heartily at the comical pictures which adorn the narrative. The conviction is thus brought home to a man's mind that the Japanese are a reading people.

The vast number of small books to be bought at an exceedingly low price in all the shops proves that there is a corresponding demand for such literature, whilst the more learned and sententious works, borrowed from China, may be as easily purchased by those who have a taste for such literature. When the English first visited Mikodadi I was forbidden to purchase any work illustrating the religious or military customs of the people. I contrived, however, by a little coaxing, to secure a number of these books. On entering a shop, for instance, after a little parley, I would boldly ask to see "shu mochi"—i.e., reading-books. There would be then a little delay—an attempt at concealment. A shy shopboy, perhaps, would steal away, and pretend to be occupied about something else, whilst in fact he would be shutting up a case in the back part of the shop in which a whole pile of books had been previously displayed. Of course my eye would follow his movements; and just as he had completed his task I would disconcert the whole arrangement by politely bowing to the shopkeeper, mounting on the unsullied mat which constitutes his dikan, and, proceeding to the case in question, without more ado withdrawing the books and examining them at my leisure. There would be a sort of protest at first, signs made indicative of the "police" being at hand; sundry gestures, intended to convey the idea of capital punishment being the consequence of discovery, and a look of real or simulated terror in the direction of the shop-door, as though every passer-by was an informer. Gradually the agitation would subside; the "boys" would gather round me and point out all the "curiosities of literature" they could find, whilst the sedate shopkeeper would crawl away to attend to some black-toothed lady or other who was waiting to be served at the edge of the board. This would be the opportunity for "barter." A piece of lead pencil would go a very long way, and an English alphabet, all in large Roman characters, would secure a most advantageous bargain. I would walk off with a book under my waistcoat, and the Japanese merchant would, in the "innocence of his heart," know nothing about it till the shop was empty, and he had time to turn round and secure the coveted prize in the hands of his assistants.

The character of the books which were thus obtained will throw some light on the subject of "Japanese literature." To descend, then, from the highest to the lowest in the scale, I may mention first of all the standard works of China, known as the "Four Books" and "Five Classics," all of which, with a Japanese interlinear reading, came into my possession. The interlinear version is written in the Katakana character, the plainest of all the written symbols used in Japan. I doubt not that as a knowledge of the Japanese language increases this version will throw much light on the many obscure and difficult passages in the books under consideration. It is well known that the Manchoo version of these works has contributed very much to their elucidation; and, as the Japanese is an equally exact and grammatical language, the same benefit will arise from a comparison of its text with that of the original. That these books are much read in Japan, especially by the better educated class, was evident, not only from the number on sale, but also from the ease with which the very shopboys would read any passage pointed out to them, without reference to the marginal version. They form the basis, in fact, of the national system of education, as they do in China. The national mind in Japan, however, is not so imbued with their principles as it is in China, since they do not form the test of the competitive examinations, which in the latter country are the only means of arriving at any degree of eminence. In China, on this very account, the national mind is bigoted and narrowed. In Japan, whilst all the benefits of a comparatively pure morality, and certainly of a healthy and vigorous tone of thought, are derived from the study of these works, the danger of an over-exact and all-absorbing regard to them, as the only criterion of excellence and the only pass to preferment, is fortunately avoided; and hence, to a great extent, the difference of national characteristics between the two people. The system of philosophy most in vogue amongst the Japanese corresponds to that advocated, or rather exhibited, in the "Yih King," the first of the five classics. The Yang and Yin principles are spoken of as the "Fiko" and "Hiao." From these two sources—the one active and the other passive—all the revolutions of times and seasons, the combinations and relations of the elements—in fact, all the changes which have marked the physical world—have been evolved. And by a subtle philosophy, which I do not pretend to fathom, moral and political phenomena are connected with these principles as the origin from which they spring and by which they act.

Next in order and number to these standard works, books on education, adapted for the young of both sexes, seemed to predominate. Of these there was one in particular which appeared to be very popular: it is entitled "The Imperial Instruction Book," and comprises a number of letters, written by different officers of the Emperor's Court at Miyako, on subjects instructive and entertaining to young people. This work is amply illustrated. It is written in the contracted Chinese character, and accompanied by a sort of commentary in the Hirakana style, for the benefit of those ill-acquainted with the style of the text. The letters are on a variety of subjects—religious, military, and civil—and seem to have been written for the children of the Court in the first instance, and afterwards extended for general circulation. Copies of this work were to be found in almost every shop; especially of a new and improved edition published in the sixth year of Kawai, corresponding to A.D. 1876. The illustrations of this work are of a very respectable character.

There is a corresponding work, not so neatly got up, called "A Complete Book of Directions for Young Ladies." This book is also illustrated. The various duties of the daughter, the wife, and mother, are exactly described. Much attention is paid to the ceremonies observed in these several relations. The Japanese, in fact, are a more ceremonious people than we should suppose. The art of presenting a cup of tea, or making a bow, requires long study and constant practice. Young ladies' "deportment" is a subject of the first consideration. Hence it is that Europeans are so much impressed by the easy and polite manners of the ladies whom they may accidentally meet. There is an air of refinement and good breeding about Japanese society reminding us strongly of our own "hearths and homes;" and this is the consequence of the care and attention devoted to the subject in the training of children from their earliest youth. The Japanese are a domestic people also. They enjoy the society of their friends and neighbours, and enter into little schemes of amusement for their children with as much earnestness as one of ourselves. The work under consideration testifies to this on every page. We find children occupied in games, or engaged with toys, familiar to us all; girls dressing their dolls, or playing at draughts, or enjoying music, as they would in the Western World; and as much happiness pervading the scene, no doubt, there as elsewhere. In short, from all I have read and observed, I entirely believe the reports which have always been made on this subject—that, for politeness and good nature, the Japanese are very conspicuous amongst Eastern nations.

The small works to be found in every shop, and sold for a few cash to the children, are objects of great curiosity. They are profusely illustrated, and in some cases very carefully and skillfully so. The text is interspersed over the page and through the picture, wherever there is a blank space, in such a manner as to explain, and yet not deface, the illustrations. These small works are written in the popular style, the text being a mixture of the Hirakana and contracted Chinese. The works first mentioned I caused to be carefully translated into pure Chinese by native teachers; but these small books, being almost entirely in the Yomi, or vernacular, can only be deciphered by a person thoroughly acquainted with the various styles of writing and the colloquial dialects of the people. From the Chinese introductions which are prefixed to several of them, it is plain that the subjects of the books are narratives or stories connected with their national history, especially incidents selected from their "civil wars," amongst which that between the Ghens and the Feis (corresponding in a singular manner to our own wars of the Roses) stands conspicuous. It is thus a military taste is nurtured amongst the people. Children are accustomed to read these histories, and are thus made familiar with the valiant deeds of their forefathers; and a similar spirit is by these means engendered in themselves. Here particularly is a marked difference between the Japanese and their neighbours in China; in the latter country the military profession is despised, and consequently neglected. Ask your "sainang" (teacher) why he is laughing over the paper you are endeavouring to translate by his assistance, and he will tell you with a sneer that it is written by a "soldier mandarin," and they, poor fellows! know nothing of the beauties of composition. "This man, number one fool," he will add, as he comes to the end of the despatch, and flings it away with contempt; "he only saves that fighty pigeon—that no good pigeon." And this is the universal opinion amongst the Chinese. The military arts are despised, for the simple reason that all the great officers of the State, and all the chief

subordinate officers in the provinces, belong to the literary grade, by which channel alone any eminence can be hoped to be attained. But in Japan it is very different; the nobility there is composed of lords and knights who hold their own by their strength of arm; the Sengun himself is a soldier, and all the feudal lords are so likewise. The military profession ranks, therefore, amongst the highest and most honourable in their division of the social classes, and the ordinary distinction of a gentleman amongst them is the privilege of wearing two swords. This love of the military art, then, is fostered by the character of the popular literature—tales of wars, and fights, and murders, and revenge, are the *passion* offered to the youthful mind; so that we cannot wonder if (as is the case) the idea of a Japanese child forms of a "tono sama" (nobleman) is a grim, hard-featured man, dressed out in full armour, belted and spurred, apparently ready for any deed of cruelty or scene of bloodshed to which he may be called. These pictures are the common ornaments of the shops and private houses of the people, and the invariable reply given to the question "Who is that?" is simply an elevation of the thumb (indicative of excellence) and a repetition of the words "tono sama," as much as to say, a nobleman dressed out for war.

By a consideration of these very hurried remarks we may, at any rate, gather some ideas respecting the characteristics of the singular people I am describing. It is often said that they despise their Chinese neighbours, and yet it cannot be denied that Japan owes almost everything of civilisation, to a great extent, to Chinese. Her knowledge of the arts and of agriculture is borrowed from the same source. Nay, the very language in common use is becoming every year more and more Chinese in its character and composition. How, then, can they despise the people to whom they are indebted for so much? Simply because from their early youth the Japanese have been taught that the Chinese are no soldiers; that in former days a Japanese army drove a host of Chinamen through the whole length of the Corea; nay, that Goxinga himself, who was the scourge of the sea and the terror of the Chinese empire, was a true-born Japanese, and the great part of his followers like himself. The Chinaman is despised for this reason, just as, a few years since, an English boy would speak of our own neighbours on the other side of the Channel. He is admired and copied for his "politesse," but for his want of martial spirit and prowess he is scorned and ridiculed. The annals of Japan record that the first of the great warriors who contributed to the formation of the national character; and the fact that their country has never been conquered by any foreign foe. The only attempt of any magnitude to this end was that of the followers of Kubli Khan (A.D. 1280), the conqueror of China, in which country he established his dynasty known as the "Yuen." His attempt to bring Japan within his bond of universal empire was most disastrous. The fleet he dispatched for that purpose was scattered or wrecked, the miserable crew were either drowned or massacred, and his soldiers who returned displayed to such a degree as to prevent any second effort of the same character. The Japanese are familiar with this event. They boast, no doubt, that the army which swept down the Chinese and brought their country under a foreign yoke was unable to gain a single dragon-boat or a single piece of land. And here, again, is another fact which may account for the contempt with which the name of China fills the free-born soul of Japan. The great deeds and heroes are all to be found in the works scattered among the people; they are read and talked about, and discussed, and undoubtedly contribute largely to the formation of the popular character.

With respect to the education of the Japanese, I have as yet only limited data for arriving at any conclusion. The few facts that came under my notice would induce me to suppose that the standard of education is as high, at any rate, as that of the Chinese. In my walks through the country I seldom met a child who could not read the "vulgar" style of writing, whilst in many cases I found boys who were also familiar with the pure Chinese. It should be remarked, perhaps, that the Chinese is the basis of all the written symbols in Japan. The spoken language is indigenous; the *shin* character is borrowed from China. That style of writing known as the Katakana (broken letters) is the plainest and simplest; it is, in fact, an adaptation of forty-eight Chinese symbols to express as many syllables, by combining which the spoken language is expressed in a written form. This style was introduced into Japan about A.D. 700. Previous to this the pure Chinese had been used, having been introduced by Wenin about A.D. 280; but this was found to be cumbersome and heavy for the vulgar use, in consequence of which the Katakana style was invented, and gradually prevailed. I found that almost every child was familiar with this character, although it is not ordinarily used; for, as it consists of a number of detached and nicely-formed figures, it is ill-adapted for ordinary use; in short, it corresponds very much to our own small-printed Roman characters, with the formation of which we are all familiar, and yet seldom employ. The other style in use amongst the Japanese is called Hirakana (smooth letters), and is a contraction, not of the pure Chinese character, from which the Katakana is borrowed, but of that form known in China as Tsao Tze—i.e., literally, the flower or leaf character, because the letters run into one another and intertwine, as leaves or flowers, one with its neighbour. It is this manner, however, which is commonly used in Japan, and with it is intermixed a quantity of contracted Chinese, so that to decipher a book composed in this style it is necessary first of all to be familiar with the Tsao Tze Chinese, and then with the contracted Tsao Tze, known in Japan as the Hirakana. To a foreigner this task appears almost herculean, and yet I found that children of tender age in Japan were able to read notices and books in this composite style without any apparent difficulty. It is well known that the laws—or such as are of the greatest importance—are in Japan made familiar to the people by being written on large boards, and placed in a conspicuous spot at the entrance of every town or village. These laws are written in the style of which I speak; yet, from the very nature of the case, it is to be supposed that they are generally understood; in fact, I have often seen the very poorest charcoal-burners or wood-cutters gathered round these boards in close conurbation as to the nature of the order or restriction thus promulgated, and, certainly, with a knowledge of its character. I presume, therefore, that the people generally are taught to read and understand this character, and are able to do so. It is plain, therefore, that a person of good education in Japan is thoroughly conversant not only with the pure Chinese, but with its various adaptations to the language of their own country; and that persons of ordinary education are able to read and write in at least one style, and that a most difficult and perplexing one. If we intend to become familiar with the manners and customs of this country this style must be mastered. It is useless to translate the Scriptures into the Katakana style: there is already a translation in that character of a part of the New Testament, which I endeavoured to induce the people to read. Much to my surprise, I found they always preferred referring to the pure Chinese, which was printed in alternate columns with the Japanese. They were more familiar, in fact, with the original Chinese than the imperfect Katakana version; but these were only the better educated class; the lower orders seemed at a loss to understand the book at all. In short, if we would disseminate the Scriptures in Japan, let there be prepared a version in the vulgar, mixed style, and it will no doubt be read with avidity. In order to this a scholar already familiar with Chinese must reside in the country—a scholar, too, with a stronger heart than the old Jesuit priest who despairingly exclaimed "that he believed the Japanese tongue was invented, and afterwards corrupted, by the direct agency of Satan himself, for the purpose of confounding the missionaries of Christ." Let us enter on the work with earnestness and confidence, in imitation of the "admirable Morrison," who for seven years, in comparative obscurity and want, was labouring at Canton, in his small and ill-furnished room, with his great folio Bible raised on end to prevent the draught extinguishing his midnight lamp, toiling in hope and in faith, already seeing the end of his labours. Let us find an imitator of this great and good man to go to Japan.

S. B.

FASHIONS FOR MARCH.

BONNETS still continue to be composed of various materials—as velvet, silk, blonde, and lace. Flowers and feathers are frequently combined together, and various colours are also brought into juxtaposition. Many bonnets have the crown of one colour, and the front or bavolet of another. The baretts are usually set on in double box plaits. The fronts are slightly à la Marie Stuart, but without being exactly pointed in front. Among the most favourite colours for bonnets we may mention Royal blue, Isly green, violet, mauve, and peach blossom: the latter will be very fashionable as the season advances.

A few elegant bonnets which have just issued from the attolier of a fashionable Parisian milliner may be here described. Bonnet of pink velvet epingle; the front is edged with a resille formed of white marabouts; on the left side a tuft of white marabouts. Very broad strings of pink velvet. Under trimming of blonde and flowers.

Bonnet composed of Isly green and white terry velvet. The crown is formed of crossings of green velvet over white terry velvet; the front is of green velvet. On the left side of the crown there is a loose end or lappet of green velvet, edged with black lace. A torsado of green and white velvet trims the under edge of the front; on the left side a tuft of green and white feathers. Under trimming, white blonde and a wreath of roses.

A variety of charming ball head-dresses have appeared. Some are composed simply of flowers; others intended for evening parties, the theatres, &c., are made of velvet or blonde, intermingled with pearls or gold. Not a few are ornamented with plumes of feathers.

Out-door dresses are in general made in a very simple style. The skirts are frequently quite plain, and the corsage without much ornament. This plainness of make is, however, in numerous instances qualified by the richness and beauty of the materials. Velvet and moiré antique, in black or rich dark colours, are much employed for a superior style of out-door dress. Black velvet and

(Continued on page 240.)

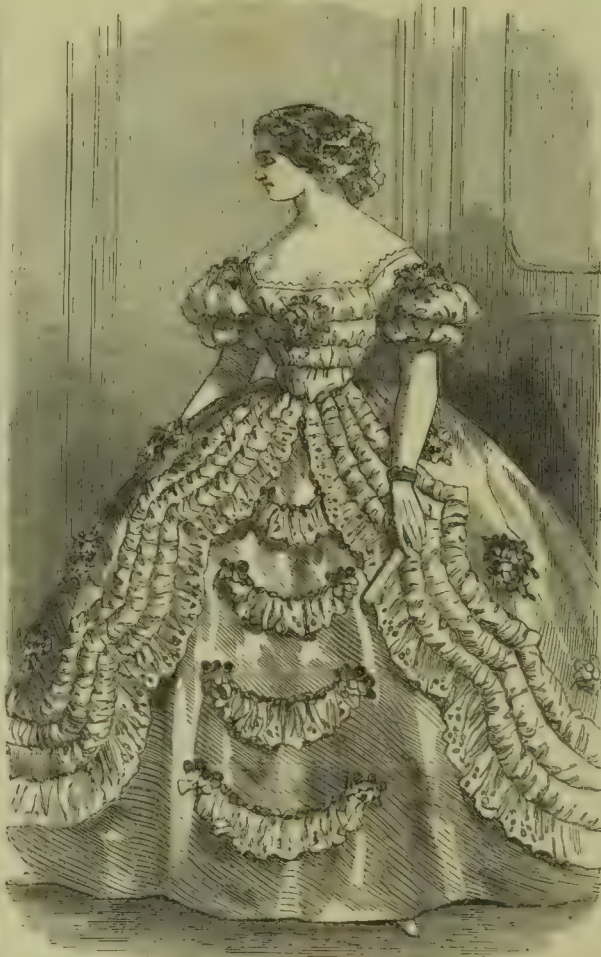
(Continued from page 238.)

moiré antique are much worn; and watered moiré, which for some time has been partially laid aside, is now reinstated in fashionable favour. A dress of this watered moiré has just been made for a lady of distinguished rank. It is of that pretty brown tint called by the French *noisette*. The corsage is not pointed in front, but has a ceinture fastened by a steel buckle. The bonnet to be worn with this dress is of China blue velvet with a white cock's plume on one side. Another extremely elegant out-door dress may be noticed. It is of violet-coloured satin, trimmed with velvet of the same colour. The trimming consisted of pieces of velvet in the form of *pattes* descending from the waist to the edges of the skirt, and widening in the *tablier* style. The bonnet made to accompany this dress is quite unique for elegance and novelty. It is made of violet-coloured velvet, disposed in small bias folds. A demi-wreath formed of the tips of peacocks' feathers passes above the bavolet, and terminates on one side with a drooping tuft of the same feathers. In the under trimming very small heads of peacocks' feathers and boutons d'or are intermingled with the blonde *ruche*.



FASHIONS FOR MARCH.

At the grand balls recently given in Paris in honour of Prince Napoleon and his bride many ladies, especially those who did not dance, wore plumes of feathers. This old fashion seems likely to be revived. Small hats, like those seen in the portraits of Marguerite de Navarre, were also numerous. A dress worn at one of these balls was greatly admired. It was of pink velours epinglé, opening so as to show a *tablier* of pink satin. The skirt, which was gathered



FASHIONS FOR MARCH.

up at each side in the style of the jupes of the reign of Louis XIV., was trimmed round with white blonde and agraffes of pearls. The coiffure consisted of pearls and pink marabouts. The whole was in exquisite taste; but, though it was worn by a young, gay, and beautiful woman, yet it was not precisely a fancy dress. Velvet, though now much in favour for evening costume, is too heavy for a quadrille; and, with the present amplitude of skirts, is perfectly incompatible with the Mazurka, the Redowa, and other fashionable dances.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Fig. 1. This figure shows a dress in the new style called the "Princess Robe." It is intended to be worn within doors during that part of the day allotted to the reception of morning visitors. The robe is made of mauve-coloured moiré antique, and the corsage and skirt are cut all in one, without any separation. The broad bands of black velvet passing over the shoulders extend along the whole length of the corsage and skirt, both at the back and in front. These bands become narrower as they approach the waist, and enlarge as they descend to the edge of the skirt. They are finished at each side with small ornaments of *passementerie*. The sleeves are wide, and slit open in front up to the bend of the arm. They are trimmed with broad bands of black velvet, corresponding with those on the skirt. On the head is worn a *fanchon* of white lace; the ends fastened loosely under the chin by a malachite brooch. On one side a bouquet of roses. Under-sleeves formed of full puffs of muslin, edged with lace; and on the band at the wrist are fixed small bows of black velvet.

Fig. 2. (Ball Dress.) Robe of salmon-colour satin, with a *tablier* front, formed of three bouillones of salmon-coloured tulle, edged with a full fall of blonde. This trimming is set on in festoons, descending from the point in front of the corsage, diverging at each side until it reaches the edge of the skirt. In each festoon there is a bouquet of pansies set with amethysts. The front of the corsage is entirely covered with rows of tulle bouillonne, with amethysts between each row; and in front of the skirt there are four festoons of blonde, enlarging as they descend from the waist. These festoons are headed by rows of amethysts, and fastened at each end by bouquets of pansies. In front of the corsage and on each shoulder there is a bouquet of the same flowers. Coiffure à la Grecque, with bouquets of pansies and amethysts at the back part of the head, and a spray of the same passing across the upper part of the forehead. Amethyst bracelets.

Fig. 3. Dress of lilac spotted silk with a double skirt. The lower one is edged with a broad trimming formed of crossings of lilac velvet. The upper one, which is rounded at the back, is trimmed with broad bands of lilac velvet, descending from the waist and diverging one from the other *en eventail*. Each band is finished at



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the end by a rosette of silk, the same as the dress. The corsage and sleeves are trimmed with bands of velvet in corresponding style; and the ends of the sleeves and epaulets are ornamented with crossings of velvet. The bonnet has a soft drawn crown of lilac silk, and the front and bavolet of white silk, edged with lilac velvet. Across the front there is a row of small lilac rosettes. Collar and sleeves of worked muslin.



ROLL'S DRY GAS-METER MANUFACTORY, KINGSLAND-ROAD.—SEE PAGE 238.



BAS-RELIEF IN THE PRINCE'S CHAMBER, HOUSE OF LORDS—QUEEN ELIZABETH KNIGHTING SIR FRANCIS DRAKE.—SEE PAGE 229.

THE GOVERNMENT REFORM BILL.

IN the House of Commons on Monday the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER rose to move for leave to bring in a bill to amend the laws relating to the representation of the people in England and Wales, and to facilitate the registration and voting of electors. At this time (twenty minutes to five) the benches on both sides of the House were completely filled. The galleries also were thronged by honourable members; while the more than usually crowded state of the Strangers' and Speaker's Galleries showed that the interest felt out of doors was not inferior to that which the members themselves took in the important subject which was to occupy the attention of the House. Mr. Bright was early in his place, as were also the chief members of the Government and the Opposition. The absence of Mr. Walpole and Mr. Henley from the Ministerial bench was significant. The American Minister (Mr. Dallas) and other foreign representatives occupied the gallery allotted to them, and there was also a large attendance in the Peers' Gallery. Mr. DISRAELI said:—

Sir, it is my duty to draw the attention of the House to a question than which nothing more important can be submitted to their deliberations—a question which may be called the most important of any that we are called on to consider. Those questions, for example, of peace and war which now occupy and agitate the public mind are in their effect of immense extent. In either of these cases, however, an erroneous policy may be retraced, and there are no disasters which cannot be successfully encountered by the energies of a free people. But the principles on which the distribution of power depends in a community, when once they have been adopted, can rarely be changed, and error in that direction may have an important effect in reference to the state and character of the people. But grave as is the duty and difficult as is the task which has devolved upon her Majesty's Government in undertaking to prepare a measure to amend the representation of the people in this House, these I admit—cheerfully admit—have been considerably mitigated by two circumstances—absence of passion on the subject, and the advantage of experience. Whatever may be the result, I believe that on this subject and on this occasion I appeal to as impartial a tribunal as is compatible with the popular constitution of our reformed Government. I believe it is the wish of all the leading men of this country that a solution of this long-controverted question should be attained; and that if any public men, occupying the position which we do, shall feel it their duty to come forward and offer it, that solution, as I trust in our case, will not be based on any mean conception, or any temporary compromise, but upon principles consistent with the spirit of our constitution, which will bear the scrutiny of debate, and which, I trust, may obtain the sympathy of public opinion. I feel persuaded that in the present conjuncture of the political world it is a solution which will meet with a candid though discriminating support. Especially so, it may also be observed, as the public mind of this country has for the last quarter of a century—at least during the latter portion of it—been habituated to the consideration of questions connected with the popular representation. The period itself has been prolific of political phenomena likely to afford study and, I hope, instruction to the people of this country.

THE REFORM BILL OF 1832.

The time when we have felt it to be our duty to undertake this task places us in a much more favourable position than the statesmen who in the year 1832 undertook the great office that then devolved upon them, because, although we address the Parliament and the country on this question, we yet address those who have made a vast advance upon the knowledge of that day. Although some of those statesmen who took a leading part in the transactions of the year 1832, happily for us, are still in both Houses of Parliament, yet so long a space has intervened since the occurrence of that event, that one may think it not altogether impossible to speak of them with some of the candour of history. I cannot doubt that future history, with regard to this country, will acknowledge that during some of the most important political events which have occurred in our annals the transactions of that time were directed with energies and resources such as were becoming English statesmen. I freely acknowledge that if we look to the year 1832, or to any of the proceedings of this House, or to the character of the members, that that measure was adequate to the circumstances which it was to control and direct. I cannot agree with those who underrate the legislation of 1832: it was the greatest measure of public benefit passed by this House for the last five hundred years. I may refer to what took place during an Administration distinguished for efficiency: I know that at least during the latter portion of the Administration of Lord Liverpool the opinion of this House was greatly in advance of the opinion of the country. But it must be admitted that the Reform of 1832 was greatly aided by the energy and public spirit in which we, in our political life, are somewhat deficient. It must, however, be remembered, that the labours of the statesmen who took part in our transactions of 1832 were mainly experimental—that they came to the solution of the problem with a great want of the data on which the nice and great conclusion could be reached. At that day they were, in many things, obliged to act empirically. It is not to be wondered at that in the course of time some errors were committed in that settlement; and that as time has gone on it has been felt that some deficiencies have been experienced.

PROGRESS OF THE NATION SINCE THAT PERIOD.

I beg the House well to consider the effect of time. Let them consider what has been the character of the five-and-twenty years which have elapsed since the Reform Act of 1832. It forms no ordinary period in a progressive nation and a progressive age. The progress of the country has been rapid—perhaps I ought to say precipitate. Without a parallel in

European history is the vast increase of our population in this country during that period. There is no such instance in ancient or modern history, in the experience of Europe or America, as the immense accumulation of capital which has been made in this country during the same period. The general diffusion of intelligence has kept pace with the increase of population and of capital. You have brought science to bear on social life in a manner in which philosophers never anticipated. You have in that annihilated space and time. The invention of printing in its influence is only beginning to work its wonders upon the multitude. It is not, therefore, surprising that, with regard to a measure which was passed twenty-five years ago as an experimental measure, however distinguished it was for the principles on which it was based and remarkable for its applicability to the times, there has arisen from observation during the interval a feeling in the country that there are omissions which ought to be supplied and deficiencies which ought to be corrected.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM MADE A MINISTERIAL QUESTION.

This question of Parliamentary Reform became, therefore, what is called a public question; that public question became in due course of time a Parliamentary question; and again, by a similar change, the same question became a Ministerial question. Fifteen years ago Parliamentary Reform was a Parliamentary question. For ten years it has been a Ministerial question. It is ten years ago since the Prime Minister of that day, after a series of motions, the object of which was a change and alteration of the arrangements of 1832, announced, after having resisted all propositions of that kind from time to time, that it was the opinion of himself and his colleagues that changes were necessary to be effected. Public even's prevented that Minister from immediately acting upon that public declaration. But in the year 1852, in this month of February, the Prime Minister counselled her Majesty from the Throne to make this address to Parliament:—"It appears to me that this is a fitting time for calmly considering whether it may not be advisable to make such amendments in the act of the late reign relating to the representation of the Commons in Parliament as may be deemed calculated to carry into more complete effect the principles upon which that law is founded. I have the fullest confidence that in any such consideration you will firmly adhere to the acknowledged principles of the Constitution, by which the prerogatives of the Crown, the authority of both Houses of Parliament, and the rights and liberties of the people are equally secured." In consequence of that announcement by the Crown, a measure of Parliamentary reform was brought forward by the Prime Minister of the day.

It was not proceeded with from a change of Government that then took place. But two years afterwards another Prime Minister being then at the head of affairs, and being in the general tenor of his political opinions in immediate contrast to the opinions of the Prime Minister who first introduced the measure of 1852, being a Minister bred in what is called the Tory camp ("Hear, hear," and a laugh), was called upon to form a Government, and to consider what were the requirements of the country, as every individual with that responsibility upon him is bound to consider, and was of opinion that it was his duty to counsel his Sovereign thus to address Parliament in the year 1854. [This is the Address from the Throne:—"Recent experience has shown that it is necessary to take more effectual precautions against the evils of bribery, and of corrupt practices at elections. It will also be your duty to consider whether more complete effect may not be given to the principles of the act of the last reign, whereby reforms were made in the representation of the people in Parliament. In recommending this subject to your consideration, my desire is to remove every cause of just complaint, to increase general confidence in the Legislature, and to give additional stability to the settled institutions of the State." Well, in consequence of that announcement, another measure was brought forward by the Ministry of Lord Aberdeen. We had then a measure from the Ministry of Lord J. Russell—it is not against the order of the House, I trust, to mention a name distinguished—another was brought forward in 1854 by the Ministry of Lord Aberdeen, and that subsequent measure was of a stronger and more comprehensive character than the preceding. But circumstances again changed and prevented that measure from being proceeded with. The country was involved in a war which may be described as a European war. Before that terminated, another change of Ministry occurred.

The Minister who succeeded may compare with his two predecessors. He was eminent not merely for his ability, but for his vast experience; and his political prejudices, if any he had, were certainly not of a character—(Here laughter burst from the House, which prevented the close of the sentence.) Superior to prejudices, the noble Lord was not considered to be without sympathies with the past. Then, Sir, what did the noble Lord deem it his first duty to do when he accepted the responsibility of office—what did he consider it his first civil duty to perform? The noble Lord counselled the Sovereign—taking the same solemn and impressive course which had been followed by the noble Lord the member for the city of London and the Earl of Aberdeen—in 1857, upon the conclusion of the peace, the noble Lord, I say, counselled her Majesty to address Parliament thus—"Your attention will be called to the laws which regulate the representation of the people in Parliament, with a view to ascertain how far and what amendments may be safely and constitutionally made therein."

The House will therefore see that during three Ministries this subject of Parliamentary reform has been formally brought before the attention of Parliament. And let me remind the House that, although circumstances have prevented the Ministries who preceded us from proceeding with either the measures which they introduced, or with the measures which they promised to the House, yet they showed during that interval there was no disposition to evade the subject, and no reluctance to deal with it; and the consequence is that we have seen, at the end of the last Session of Parliament, an independent member of this House continuing the course which was adopted—which was pursued by the House before any of these measures from the Throne were made to Parliament—viz., that of carrying out the reform of Parliament by measures of detail, instead of by a general measure which would make a fair adjustment of all the points in contro-

versy. This was the case when a change of Ministry occurred and Lord Derby became responsible for the government of the country.

THE DUTY OF THE DERBY CABINET ON THE REFORM QUESTION CONSIDERED.

And now let me ask the House what, in their opinion, was our duty under these circumstances? Sir, it might have been possible by evasion for a time to have warded off the performance of what had become in our opinion a solemn act of public duty. I do not say that was impossible. But that was a course which, speaking for myself, if I may respectfully do so, we did not find congenial with our tastes (Hear, hear). Were you to allow this question, which the Sovereign had announced three times was a question which ought to be dealt with—which three Prime Ministers, who had been among the most successful and authoritative of statesmen, had declared it to be their intention to deal with—were you to suffer such a question to remain in abeyance? Was it to be left as a means of reconstructing an Opposition? Is that the opinion of the House? of either side of the House? Is it the opinion of the House that that is a wholesome position for a measure of the highest rank to occupy? (Cheers.) Was Parliamentary reform—a subject which touches the interests of all classes and all individuals—with the wise and politic settlement of which the very destiny of this country is concerned—was that to be left as a desperate resource of party; or was it one to be dealt with at a moment of great public excitement, and to be settled not by the reason but by the passions of the people? (Cheers.) Were we to establish, as it were, a chronic irritation of the public mind upon this subject, which, of all others, should not form the staple of our party contests? (Cheers.) Was this ancient country, with its complex interests and high civilisation—boasting, as we do, of a Throne which has lasted a thousand years—to be disturbed and diverted from its primary object—so deeply affecting the interest of the subject and the welfare of the country at large—a reconciliation of the principles of its Constitution, and of what should be the fundamental base of its public institutions? I cannot believe that the House can agree that that would be a state of affairs which would be without danger to the country, or which it would be harmless in any public man to sanction (Cheers). Having, then, to consider the state of this country with reference to this question—recalling before us all these details which upon this occasion, and under these circumstances, I have felt it my duty to lay before the House—the Government of Lord Derby, upon the occasion of its recurrence to power, had to consider what was their duty to fulfil. And it was the opinion of the Cabinet of Lord Derby that this subject must be dealt with—and dealt with in an earnest and sincere spirit.

But then, Sir, I am told that, though it was necessary—that though it might be necessary that that solution should be attempted, although three Prime Ministers who had made the attempt had withdrawn from the effort—it was not for us, it was not for Lord Derby, though he might deem it for the interest of his country, though he might deem it his present duty in the position he occupied, it was not for Lord Derby to undertake this task. Sir, I dispute that statement (Cheers). I say that statement is not a just statement, and cannot be consistently maintained. What has the noble Lord at the head of the present Government done to preclude him from undertaking it (Cheers)? The noble Lord the member for the City of London has connected his name with the question of Parliamentary reform with enduring honour. I do not grudge the noble Lord the well-earned celebrity which, in connection with that question, he has received. But the noble Lord can remember the day when Lord Grey summoned the noble Lord and Mr. Stanley to his Cabinet in 1832, and the noble Lord knows that had it not been then for their ability and energy the previous Reform Bill never would have passed into law (Hear, hear). There being nothing, then, in the previous history and career of the present head of her Majesty's Government which should preclude him from entering upon this task, what is there in the conduct of the gentlemen who sit on this side of the house to make it an inconsistent course for them to take part in the measure which I shall introduce to-night? When the noble Lord introduced his measure, it was with the complete sanction of many gentlemen sitting around and behind me on these benches, on whose behalf I then stated I should offer no opposition to any measure which was introduced which had for its object the reconstruction of the House. I then said we were prepared to adhere to the compact which was wrung from the Conservative party in 1835 by the taunts and reproaches thrown upon their sincerity in adhering to the Act of 1832. I said that to that Conservative compact, which was then made by those who then represented the Conservative party in this House, we were ready to adhere; but if those who made it thought proper to alter and amend it, we should offer no opposition, but should give every effort to improve the representation of the people in the House of Commons (Cheers). Well, Sir, I think, therefore, I understand the justice of those taunts which have been so freely used against us in undertaking a task which no one, in my mind, who occupies the position which we do could avoid or shrink from (Cheers); and it is in performance of the pledge we gave on our accession to office. Therefore, on the part of the Government of Lord Derby, I have to-night to call your attention to the measure which we think it would be politic for this House to adopt.

TWO CLASSES OF PARLIAMENTARY REFORMERS.

Now, Sir, it appears to me that those who are called Parliamentary reformers may be divided into two classes. In the first are those who object to all attempts to disturb—or rather who would wish to adapt—the settlement of 1832 to the England of 1859; who would act in the spirit and according to the genius of the existing Constitution. Sir, among the former I may be permitted to state may be classed her Majesty's present Ministers (Cheers). But, Sir, it would not be candid—it would be impolitic—not to acknowledge that there is another school of reformers, very different in their objects—in their avowed objects—from that which I have mentioned. Sir, that new school of reformers—if I may so describe them—would effect a Parliamentary reform avowedly on principles different from those which happily have been hitherto acknowledged as forming a proper foundation for these amendments. I think the new school of reformers are those who

are of opinion that the chief, if not the sole, object of representation is to embody the opinion of the numerical majority of the country. Their standard is population, and I admit that their views have been very clearly and very efficiently placed before the public (Hear, hear). Now, Sir, there is no doubt that population must always be one of the elements of a representative system (Hear, hear). But there is also such an element as property, which must form part of that system (Cheers). I am ready to admit that the new school have not upon any occasion confined their representative system to population. They have always admitted, with a murmur, that property had its place in the system as a qualifying element. But then they have said that population and property go together. Sir, it is true that population and property go together in statistics, but in statistics alone (Hear, hear). Population and property may go together in theory, but population stands alone in practice (Cheers). Now, Sir, I think the House will not agree with the principles of the new school, whether it be that population or that property is to be their single, or even their double, standard.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS SHOULD REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF THE COUNTRY.

I think the object of this House to be something more than merely to represent the population of the country. I think it ought to be to represent the interests of the country (Hear, hear). Now, those interests are sometimes in antagonism, and sometimes completely unadapted to complete representation in this house. How, then, can representation be effected by a simple formula which would merely yield a representative view of the majority or the evidently preponderating view of the property of the country? If the function of the House be to represent all the interests of the country, you must have, of course, a representation scattered all over the country.

One illustration is worth two arguments, and so I will endeavour to illustrate my meaning by taking the instances of the metropolis and that of the kingdom of Scotland, respecting which the hon. member for Montrose, is uneasy lest I should not do justice. The population of the metropolis and that of the kingdom of Scotland are at this time about equal—(Hear, hear)—but the wealth of the metropolis and that of the kingdom of Scotland are very unequal (Laughter). The wealth of the metropolis, upon which the assessment of the great schedule of the income tax is made, gives a yearly income of £44,000,000. The amount under the same schedule in the kingdom of Scotland is only £30,000,000, and therefore as between the two, metropolis and kingdom, there is a difference in favour of the former of £14,000,000; but who for a moment will contend that the various classes and interests in Scotland would be represented by the same number of members as now represent the metropolis (Loud cheers from the Ministerial benches)? So much, then, for the population test. Let us now take the property test, and see what is the position of that very metropolis to which I have referred. This is an age of statistics—I do not place more value upon them than they are worth, but this state of things may be gleaned from them as actually occurring. Let us look at the wealth of the City of London. It is more than equivalent to 25 English and Welsh counties returning 40 members, and 146 boroughs returning 232 members (Hear, hear). The City of London is richer than Liverpool, Manchester, and Birmingham put together. Or take another point of view—it is richer than Bristol, Leeds, Newcastle, Hull, Sheffield, Bradford, Brighton, Stoke-upon-Trent, Greenwich, Preston, Sunderland, York, and Salford, which return 31 members (Hear, hear).

I have heard there is another measure of reform in hands more able probably to deal with the subject than mine, and in hands much more interested in asserting the claims of the City of London to increased representation (Hear, hear). Whether the noble Lord whom I see opposite (Lord J. Russell) has made his claim according to the statistics of population or property we shall know perhaps some day; but I am bound to say that the City of London has acted with great modesty and propriety. They appear to be satisfied with their representatives; they think, perhaps, that no place requires a greater number of representatives than the City of London, and they may perhaps think that if they had more members they might find some difficulty in getting men competent to represent their interests (Hear, laughter).

THE OPINIONS, NOT THE POWER, OF PLACES REPRESENTED IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

So much, then, for property and population. But the truth is, men are sent to this House to represent the opinions of places, and not the power of places. We know what takes place at Parliamentary elections in this country. A man with a princely fortune, when he goes to the poll, has no greater number of votes than the humblest £10 householder, because we know that his wealth, station, and character will give him his proportionate influence, and the constitution under which we live shrinks from a plurality of votes. It also shrinks from a plurality of votes to large towns and cities in this House (Hear, hear). The Constitution wishes to see the large towns and cities of England completely represented. It wishes to see the members for Liverpool, Manchester, and Birmingham in their places ready to represent the opinions of their powerful constituencies; but those members, respectable and respected as they are, are the representatives of the opinions of their constituents, and not of their power and their influence. It will happen with respect to these places as with the rich man at a contested election. The power of Liverpool and Manchester is not, as I before stated, measured by the respected members who represent their opinions. There are, I have no doubt, three score members in this House who are more interested in Manchester than its representatives; and when the question of their interest comes under the notice of this House the influence of these places is shown not merely by the representatives, who rise in their places, but by the many others who have also a deep interest in their prosperity. Look at the influence of the metropolis; is it to be measured by the sixteen members who represent it? They represent it in a manner perfectly satisfactory to their constituents or they would not be here; but half the members of the House live in the metropolis, and have property in it. Some have immense property in it, and therefore it cannot be said that the influence of the metropolis is measured by the sixteen members returned by it. So far, then, for that principle of property which has been adopted by some, or for that principle of population and property combined, which seems to be a more favoured view of the question just at present. It appears to me, however, that the principle is limited, fallacious, and entirely erroneous.

REPRESENTATION BASED ON POPULATION.

But there is one remarkable circumstance connected with this new school of politics which would build up representation on population, and it is this—none of their principles apply except in cases where population is concentrated (Hear, hear). 'Although at present this is not a very favourite doctrine, it is a notorious doctrine, but not a novel one, although comparatively lately introduced into our politics (Hear, hear). It was introduced into the house in the discussions which took place when former Reform Bills were submitted to Parliament. It was the favourite argument of Mr. Hume in his endeavours to obtain what used to be called "comprehensive measures" of reform. That hon. gentleman used to take an unfortunate borough in the West of England, with small population and little trade, and say, "This borough returns two members; while Manchester, with a population of hundreds of thousands, and half the trade of the world centering in it, returns only the same number of members. Disfranchise the small borough, and give its members to Manchester." In 1852 Mr. Hume brought forward his Bill of Reform; and it fell to my lot, holding the same position then which I now do, to reply to him; and I then said, "although I disapprove of the principle of population, yet admitting it is a right principle for the sake of argument, we must, I contend, arrive at opposite conclusions to those of Mr. Hume": the principle is, I think, utterly false, and one which may produce results dangerous to the country. That is a problem, but I am certain that the results would be fatal to this House. If you reform the House on these principles you must arrive at different conclusions. If you disfranchise the small boroughs it is not to the great towns that you can give the members (Hear, hear). When the late Mr. Hume quoted the illustrations I have noticed, I asked him to look to North Cheshire, with 249,000 population; to the towns of Macclesfield and Stockport, having 93,000 population, and returning four members, while the residue of the county, with 156,000 population, returned only two members. Then look at South Cheshire, with 236,000 population, and with one town of 28,000 population returning two members,

while the residue of the population, amounting to 173,000, returns only the same number of members. Then take South Derbyshire, with a population of 166,000; the town of Derby contains 41,000 population, and has two members, but the residue of the county, containing 126,000 population, only returns two members likewise. Then there is North Durham, with a population of 272,000; from this must be deducted the population of the four great towns of Durham, Gateshead, South Shields, and Sunderland, amounting to 136,000, while the residue of the county, also numbering exactly 136,000, returns only two members. Then, again, there is West Kent, with 400,000 population, with the four great towns of Chatham, Maidstone, Greenwich, and Rochester, with 169,000 population; those towns return seven members, while the residue of the county, with a population of 228,000, returns only two members. Then, again, there is East Norfolk, with 250,000 population; and two large towns, Norwich and Yarmouth, containing 100,000 population; the latter towns return four members to Parliament, while the residue of the county, with 150,000 population, returns only two members. In the East Riding of Yorkshire there is a population of 220,000; Hull and another large town returns four members, and the residue of the population but two. In the West Riding, where there is 1,300,000 population, 500,000 are in the towns, and 800,000 in the county; but the county only returns two members, while the nine towns, with a population of 500,000, returns sixteen members (Loud cheers from the Ministerial benches). Then there is South Lancashire, with 1,500,000 population, of which 500,000 are in the great towns, returning five members, while the residue of the county returns only two members. It is notorious that if you come to population, that 10,500,000 of the population supply 150 or 160 members, while the population of the boroughs, amounting to 7,500,000, return more than 330 members. If you take the principle as laid down by the new school of politicians you must disfranchise the boroughs and give the members to the counties (Cheers from the Ministerial benches). I have never heard an answer to this argument, although seven years have elapsed since I made use of it (Hear, hear). I have watched the recent agitation to see if any answer was given to it, but I could find none. Oh! but it is said the landed interest is also represented by the boroughs (Hear). That may or may not be a sufficient answer to the landed interests by mere representation in this House, but it is no answer to the great interests of the country. The noble Lord in 1854 admitted that the view I state had influenced him in the arrangements which he made, and in the disfranchisement of small constituencies which he proposed.

SUPPOSED CONSEQUENCES OF THE PRINCIPLE OF POPULATION.

Let us see what the principle of population really would bring us to. You have a House, generally speaking, formed partly of the great landowners, partly of landlords, and partly of manufacturers. And no doubt, whether we should look to character or property, there would be no country in the world which could rival in respectability such an assembly. But would it be the House of Commons?—(Hear, hear)—would it represent the country?—(Hear, hear)—would it represent the various interests of England? (Hear, hear.) After all, the suffrage and the seat which are subjects of so much controversy are only means to an end. They are the means by which you may create a representative assembly that is a mirror of the mind as well as of the interests of the country (Hear, hear). You want in this House every element which can secure the respect and engage the interests of this country (Hear, hear). You must have lineage and great territorial property here, and manufacturing enterprise of the highest character and commercial weight. You must have professional ability in all its various classes, and you want something more even than that. You want a body of men not too intimately connected with agriculture, or commerce, or manufactures—not too much professional—men, in short, who may represent the vast variety of English character—men who may arbitrate between the claims of all these great predominant interests, and who may temper the acerbity of those conflicts. You want a body of men to represent that immense portion of the community who cannot be ranked under any one of those powerful classes, but who are in the aggregate equally important and valuable, and perhaps as numerous (Hear, hear). Hitherto you have been able to effect this object—you have effected it by the existing borough system, which has given you a number of constituencies of various amounts distributed over the country (Hear). No one can for a moment pretend to say that the borough system of representation in England was originally formed to represent all classes and interests in the country; but it has been kept up and has been cherished because the country found that, although that was not its original purpose, yet that it indirectly fulfilled that object (Hear, hear). What I say is—I lay this down as the principle which we should adopt; but if you put an end to—if you subvert—that system, you are bound to substitute for it a machinery equally effective. I am not ready—I suppose no one is ready—to reject or adopt an anomaly merely because it is an anomaly; but what I hope the House will not sanction is to give up this machinery which performs the office we desire, unless we are certain that we can substitute for it machinery equally effective (Hear, hear).

Now, there is one remarkable feature in the agitation of the new school. It is not that they offer for the system they would subvert a substitute—it is not that they offer us new machinery—but it is whilst they abrogate they offer us no substitute whatever (Hear). They lay down an inexorable principle—they carry it through with all its logical consequences, and its logical consequences would be that to this House, in the present state of our population, no doubt men would be returned by large constituents, who would, I make no doubt, in most instances represent great wealth. I make that concession. But when the House was assembled how would it perform the duties of the House of Commons? I tell you what must be the natural consequence of such a step. The House would, as a matter of course, lose its hold upon the Executive. The House will assemble, it will be comprised of men of character and wealth, the great majority of them probably matured in experience and advanced in life, and being met here, they would be unable to carry on the Executive of the country.

MR. BRIGHT: Why?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER: Why! Because the experiment has been tried in many countries and has failed in all—because it is not possible for one or two classes to give that variety of character and requirements by which the Administration of this country could alone be carried on. Well, if this House loses its hold upon the Executive of the country, what happens? I suppose the bureaucratic system; and we should be in the same position as caused such efforts to extricate the House from in 1640—an Administration carried on by Ministers with Court favourites. That might not be so all at once, but it would be so in some future time. The very result of that system would be to create an exclusive—an essentially exclusive—assembly: your very arrangement would ensure this. Although the members of Parliament might be chosen by great constituencies, they would really be chosen from limited classes, and perhaps only from a single class of the community. There is a new school of philosophy which is of opinion that there is no such thing as progress—that nations move on in a circle, and that after a cycle they arrive at exactly the same place. And so this House would, if such a system as I speak of were adopted, arrive at precisely the same state as it was in three centuries ago. I am quite sure that if this House were to be reconstructed on the new principle of population, all this would occur. I have no time to solve the problem of that topic; it would require the study and retirement of the Opposition benches to master it (Laughter). But if the new system is to be adopted, I feel quite persuaded that the House of Commons, after all its reform and reconstruction, will be left in the same comparatively ignominious position from which the energy and the spirit of the English gentry emancipated it more than two centuries ago. In any change which I shall feel it to be my duty to recommend the House to adopt I cannot admit the validity of this principle—a principle which would make either population or property, or population and property jointly together, the theory upon which our representative system should be reconstructed (Hear, hear).

SEATE OF THE FRANCHISE.

But, before I go further, it appears to me there is one branch of the question which is of the utmost interest, and which it will be my duty to touch upon—the state of the franchise (Hear, hear). If there be one subject more than another connected with the general topic upon which public feeling has been shown, it is in the desire to exercise the suffrage. That was the first claim that was made when the settlement of 1832 began to occupy

the critical spirit of the nation. And, as the prosperity of this country increased—as new interests arose, and new classes, as it were, were called into social existence, that desire became stronger. It is a desire prompted by a natural feeling, and one which ought by no means to induce us to infer that it arose from those who are disaffected towards the institutions of the country. On the contrary, it arises in most instances, no doubt, from a wish for the prosperity of the various branches of industry which they pursue. I will first make a general observation as to the objects which the Government have in view. We have never, in any of the arrangements proposed to Parliament, considered for a moment whether they would increase or diminish the constituent body. Our sole object has been to confer the franchise upon all those to whom we think that high privilege might be safely intrusted, and who would exercise it for the general welfare of the country (Hear, hear).

FRANCHISE FOR BOROUGH.

I will, with the permission of the House, address myself first to the borough franchise. The House is well aware—indeed most of us have personal experience—that the Reform Act of 1832 acknowledged to a great degree some of the old franchises of boroughs, and it established the rate in boroughs at £10 a year upon the occupation of a house. Now, Sir, there is a wish, I believe a very general wish, that, instead of that, instead of a household franchise founded on value, it ought to be founded on rating (Hear, hear). I am not surprised at the manner in which that statement has been received. I confess myself I have always been much biased in favour of it, but it appeared to me that when, to use a common phrase, the rate-book is the register, it very much simplifies the business of an election (Hear, hear). But when you come to examine into the details of this question, and see how it will act, you will find it involved in difficulty, not only great, but I am bound to say insurmountable (Murmurs). If you make the rate-book the register, you must of course trust to the discretion of the overseers. The overseer may have an interest in raising the rates, or he may be an overheated partisan. Are you prepared to leave the discretion to decide in his hands? Some say, "Oh, but you can have a check." But if there is to be a check, there must be an appeal, and if there be an appeal you cannot have a more fitting tribunal than the roving barrister; to appeal to parochial officers would be to appeal to an inferior tribunal, and would not be satisfactory, unless you are ready to admit that the rates must be unchallenged. In preparing the list of voters you cannot have the rate-book to register. But, even if you admit that, you will have other difficulties to encounter of a most perplexing nature. Notwithstanding the Parochial Assessment Act, the rating of the country is most unequal, and only those whose business it has been to examine the subject very minutely can be aware of the difficulties which would certainly arise in taking a rating instead of a value qualification.

I will take the present qualification and that valuation which is generally supposed to be accurately described by an £8 rating. What would be the consequence of an £8 rating instead of a £10 valuation on the constituency? I will take, as a first instance, the borough of Boston. That borough consists of two portions. The rating of one is on half the value, and the rating of the other is on two-thirds. The practical consequence of having an £8 rating in Boston would be the disfranchisement of four hundred of the electors of that borough, who might or might not be the supporters of the hon. gentleman behind me (A laugh). Take the £8 rating in another borough—Dover. If you have an £8 rating instead of a £10 valuation in Dover you will exactly double the constituency (Hear, hear). I take these two instances to illustrate the effect of an £8 rating as compared with a £10 valuation, but there are a great number of similar instances. The House will therefore see that the idea of a system of rating instead of an occupancy valuation is by no means so simple as it has been imagined (Hear, hear). But the great objection which made me relinquish all thoughts of accomplishing it was the tendency of such a measure greatly to disfranchise many of the constituencies (Hear).

VALUATION TAKEN AS A TEST.

At present I will consider the franchise of boroughs taking valuation as the test. The £10 qualification has been very severely assailed, and I think the objections to it may be ranged under two heads. First, it is said that there is no principle in a £10 qualification; next, that such a constituency is extremely monotonous (Laughter)—that there is in it an identity of interest, while we desire a variety of interest, and that that alone is objectionable (Hear). In short, to use a phrase that has become popular, it is said that it is a constituency of only ten-pounders (A laugh). I will first deal with the objection that the £10 borough qualification is founded upon no principle. I demur to that. It appears to me to be founded on a principle. It is often asked why should a man who lives in a £10 house have a vote, and not the man who lives in a £9 house. Now that appears to me to be no argument, but only a mere sophism or cavil. If it is any argument it must be one which cuts against all tests, and is not in favour of a £10 one. But the £10 qualification was intended as a test, and the question is whether it is effective. It is a test that is very accessible—it is a test universal in its application—and it is also a test which affords a fair presumption that the possessors of it are persons having those qualities which the test was established to ascertain. It is, therefore, founded in principle, and the objection to it on that score seems to me to be a sophism. The other objection, that the £10 qualification gives a monotonous character to the constituency—that it gives the suffrage only to men living in £10 houses, and that by it only one sentiment and one class of ideas are represented—seems to me to be altogether a fallacy (Hear, hear). It rests on the fallacious assumption that every man who votes under a £10 qualification lives in a £10 house. But that is not the case. On the contrary, under that qualification all kinds of holders vote, and a man may live in a house of £400 a year and yet vote under the £10 qualification. Instead of being monotonous, then, it embraces within its range a great variety of interests, feelings, and opinions. I am ready to admit, however, that there are many persons quite capable of exercising the franchise who do not live in £10 houses (Hear, hear). Many of them we wish to see possessed of the franchise; but shall we obtain that result by, I will not say the vulgar expedient, for that may be misinterpreted, but by the common expedient of lowering the franchise in boroughs? Suppose we have to consider a £5 borough qualification instead of the £10. The moment you have a £5 qualification you will realise all those inconvenient results which some erroneously ascribe to a £10 franchise (Hear, hear). You will have a monotonous constituency. You will then have a predominance of opinion of which the character will be identity. You will have constituencies which will return members who have the same ideas, opinions, and sentiments, and all the variety which represents English character and conditions will be entirely lost (Hear, hear). You will then have in the borough constituencies a predominant class, while your legislation in the spirit of the Constitution ought to be adverse to the predominance of any class (Hear, hear). It certainly is most injudicious—I will not use a stronger term—while we are barring ourselves against the predominance of a territorial aristocracy and the predominance of a manufacturing and commercial oligarchy, that we should reform Parliament in order to secure the predominance of a household democracy (Hear, hear). I am convinced that that is not the way to increase or vary the interests of your borough constituencies.

PERSONAL PROPERTY IN THE NEW BILL A FOUNDATION FOR THE SUFFRAGE.

It seems to me that there are modes by which that may be done; and, if the House will permit me, I will proceed to explain them. In the first we should, in the bill we propose, introduce as a foundation for the suffrage a new class of property hitherto not permitted to form a basis for voting—and that is personal property (Hear, hear). We should allow those who have funded property, or property in Bank Stock, or in East India Stock, or bonds to a certain amount, to exercise the suffrage (Hear, hear). We should propose the amount to be £10 per annum. I know objections may be urged against admitting stock, and that the difficulty of securing a due exercise of the suffrage, if that element is introduced, will be pointed out (Hear, hear). The House will pardon me if, having a wide field over which to travel, I confine myself at present to the chief points, and avoid entering upon that controversy (Hear, hear). I will only say that the bill I propose to introduce will point out the machinery by which these and all similar franchises may be exercised (Hear, hear). There is another franchise which we ask the House to adopt, and that is one which depends on the possession of a certain sum in a savings bank (Hear, hear). A man

who has had £60 in a savings-bank for a year will, under this bill, be an elector in the borough in which he resides (Hear, hear). Again, a man who enjoys a pension for public service, in the naval, military, or civil services, but who has ceased to be publicly employed, will, if the pension amounts to £20, be entitled to a vote in the place where he resides (Hear, hear). Again, the dweller in a portion of a house whose aggregate rent would amount to £20—that is, to 8s. a week—he also will be entitled to a vote (Hear, hear).

AN EDUCATIONAL FRANCHISE CONSIDERED.—WHO, UNDER THIS HEAD, ARE TO HAVE THE SUFFRAGE?

Of late years the House has heard a great deal of what is called an educational franchise. I am bound to say that no plan for the creation of an educational franchise in a very precise sense of the word has been laid before the Government for consideration which in their opinion would satisfactorily work (Hear, hear). We have been told that the basis of such a franchise would be found among the many learned societies; but it has been accurately observed that it did not follow that a man who belonged to a learned society was learned (A laugh). It very often turns out that a man with all the letters of the alphabet after his name has no more connection with the learned society of which he is a member than the paying of his yearly subscription of £10 10s. (Hear, hear). An educational franchise, according to the idea of some who have advocated it, has baffled all our efforts to make it practical (Hear, hear). But we are of opinion that it is our duty to recommend to the House to extend the privilege of voting to certain of these classes, irrespective of the more formal qualification of property. Education involves the expenditure of a large amount of money, and many educated men, no doubt, received the franchise under the previous qualifications.

But we have thought it desirable to propose that the suffrage should be conferred on all graduates, on ministers of religion, whether clergymen or ministers of denominations, under regulations which will be found in the bill; on members of the legal profession in all its branches, whether barristers, members of the Inns of Court, solicitors, or proctors; and on all members of the medical body, who may be registered under the late Medical Act. To these we propose to add those schoolmasters who possess certificates from the Council (Hear).

THE COUNTY FRANCHISE.

Sir, there are some other changes which it is our intention should also be made in the borough constituencies; but before I touch upon them it will be convenient that I should call the attention of the House to the county franchise (Hear, hear). Sir, previous to the Reform Act of 1832 the general franchise of England might be described popularly, though not technically, as a franchise which in counties arose from property, and in boroughs from occupation. When the measure which passed in 1832 was first introduced, that distinction was recognised by the statesmen who had the proposition and conduct of that bill. Sir, I have no doubt they deeply considered that question at the time, nor can it be denied that if the constituencies had remained as was then proposed they would have been laid upon a powerful, distinct, and clear basis (Hear). Whether that distinction would have remained I may with great humility be permitted to doubt (Hear). Looking to the immense expansion which has taken place, not only in works and population, but also in the distinctive interests which seek representation in this House; and remembering that increase of ten-and-a-half millions in the county population to which I have already alluded, I venture humbly to doubt whether that distinction could have been long maintained. That it was convenient to retain it to the statesmen of 1832, who had immense difficulties to contend with, I can easily conceive; but they were disappointed in the plan which they had prepared, and circumstances occurred in this House which greatly changed the character of the county franchise—(hear, hear)—and destroyed that distinction between property and occupation upon which the Ministry of the day had sought to base the franchise (Hear, hear).

THE CHANDOS CLAUSE IN THE REFORM BILL OF 1832.

The individual responsible for that change was the noble Duke who was my predecessor in the seat which I now unworthily fill; and with regard to his conduct in that respect, as there are many who now deplore the course which he then adopted, being well aware of the motives which influenced him, perhaps the House will permit me for a moment to state what induced the Marquis of Chandos (afterwards Duke of Buckingham) to move successfully in this House the celebrated clause which bears his name.

Sir, when the Reform Bill was introduced in 1831 it was generally found that the object of the measure was to give a legitimate position in the Legislature to the middle classes of England. That was viewed by the country generally as a measure of propriety, and no doubt in principle it was good. Now, Sir, the Marquis of Chandos, then member for Buckinghamshire, being a man who lived much among his neighbours, and familiar with their character and interests, naturally felt, when the principle of legislation was laid down that the middle classes should be represented in this House, what he considered to be a great absurdity, that the most important portion of the middle classes—even at this day—because they are the great employers of labour—the farmers—should not possess the suffrage; and with that view he framed a clause, and the sympathy of the House was so great with that proposition that the noble Lord who then led the House (Lord Althorp) felt it his duty to accept it. But that happened then which sometimes happens when a great measure is brought forward by a Minister, and when an amendment is brought forward upon it—those who have the proposition of an important measure feel—and I see before me now many upon whom have devolved that task, and who know the deep anxiety involved in such a task—how difficult it is to adapt one part to another, and to produce that harmony which meets the public wants. But when the Leader of the Opposition carries an amendment which he believes to be necessary, he thinks only of the measure which he proposes to the House, and if the Ministers adopt it it will not be with that harmony which would be the case if they themselves had devised the measure (Hear). Well, Sir, the consequence, I have no doubt, if the Government thought fit in 1831 or 1832 to introduce the principle of occupation in the county franchise—the consequence I have no doubt would have been that they might have made that introduction in a manner so homogeneous to the general scheme that all would have worked with perfect facility, and that we should long ere this have accepted it, and those difficulties which have since arisen might never have happened (Hear).

But there is no doubt that shortly after the introduction of the £50 clause in the Reform Act a feeling of distrust and suspicion existed in the minds of the community. The occupier in counties of less than £50 would—if the principle was not admitted, and supposing him the occupier of a £40 or a £20 holding—naturally look with great soreness upon the man in the borough who had the franchise. Well, that feeling of dissatisfaction was unfortunately followed by those industrial controversies the origin or end of which it is unnecessary to dwell on, but which caused inconvenience among all classes. Well, what occurred? That feeling of dissatisfaction became a feeling of distrust, and it was said that commercial changes were prevented by this £50 clause; and those who supported it were described in this House as men devoid of all patriotism and even public spirit, and exercising the suffrage merely at the beck of their landlords. Now, Sir, nothing could be more exaggerated or untrue (Hear, hear). A great deal was said in this House at the time about the influence of the Chandos clause upon popular elections. But, in the first place, the voters under the Chandos clause at no time ever exceeded one-fifth of the constituent body of the counties; and therefore, had they voted all one way, they could not have exercised that influence which had been ascribed to them upon public events. But the proprietors of the soil had some influence on those events. There are Whig landlords, and very considerable Whig landlords, too; but the soil was distributed among proprietors of all kinds; and if you ever look to the elections, you will find that those who voted under that qualification were often very equally divided, and therefore that those who voted under that qualification did not exercise any very great influence, if they even voted with one intent and meaning.

THE FORTY-SHILLING FRANCHISE.

But there is no doubt that dissatisfaction was followed by distrust, and no doubt an unhappy course of events did arise, originating in the idea that the county representation was an exclusive representation, animated by only one object; that it had a selfish interest always before it; and that it had not that sympathy with the community which we desire to see in

that body. What was the consequence? The formation of the 40s. franchise, which was intended to counteract in counties the influence of the £50 clause. But what occurred? When a gentleman stood for a county it was understood his neighbours must vote for him; but some large towns pour out their legions by railway and nominate the person whom it thinks should represent the county and the dwellers in the county—the population of the county not represented in many instances by those who lived amongst them (Hear). A sort of civil war was raised up in this manner, and if you look into the statistics of the subject you will see that what may be called the internal state of the constituencies was brought about because a man should vote for the place where he resides or the locality in which he is really interested (Hear). Well, I say this is a state of affairs very much to be regretted. I think it is of great importance that the constituencies, whether of boroughs or counties, should sympathise with the community as to the manner in which they should exercise their important right (Hear, hear). No doubt a man who votes for a place where he resides, or where he has property, votes with a greater sense of responsibility; but how is this man, when we are considering the condition of the constituencies of the country, to be restored to his natural state in those constituencies? (Hear, hear.)

No doubt it is a labour of great difficulty. How is it to be accomplished? Can it be effected by restrictions? Can it be effected by artificial arrangements? Is it possible to pass a law which would remove these strangers, as he would call them, from the sphere of their political power? It is not possible in this House to pass any such measure; but if it were possible who, he would ask, would be rash enough to propose it? (Hear.) Then, how should we terminate those unhappy misunderstandings—how should we restore that good feeling—or, as Lord Clarendon has appropriately called it, that good nature—which formerly prevailed among all classes of Englishmen, if we take a course which would only give perpetuity to those misunderstandings, and create a perpetual motion in order to repeal those restrictions? Her Majesty's Government have given to this subject the most anxious consideration (Hear, hear). I am sure if thought and labour could assist us to a safe and proper solution of the difficulty, neither labour nor thought have been spared ("Hear, hear!" and cheers).

PROPOSED IDENTIFICATION OF BOROUGH AND COUNTY SUFFRAGE.

Is there any principle by which we can restore the county constituency to its natural state, and bring about that general concord and sympathy between the different portions of the constituent body which is on all hands acknowledged to be desirable? Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that some such principle does exist. We think there is a principle the justice of which will be at once acknowledged, and the logical consequences of which will be at once exhibited, and which, if adopted with due discretion, may effect all those objects which are desired with respect to the county constituencies (Hear, hear). We find that principle in the identification of the suffrage between the counties and the towns, and will proceed to show to the House what would in our opinion be the probable and practical consequences of that principle if recognised. If the suffrage of the towns be made identical with that of the counties we shall have a certain class of voters turned over from the towns to the counties, and another class turned over from the counties to the towns. All those voters who, in virtue of the county franchise, although they dwell in the towns, vote for the county members, all those 40s. freeholders would—subject to certain arrangements and provisions in the bill which would prevent that constitutional instrument being turned to an improper use—have a right to vote for the borough in which they reside, and this, as well as his views founded in morality, in prudence, in intelligence, and in frugality, would entitle him to enter into the privileged pale of the constituent body of the country (Hear, hear). If this principle be adopted a man will vote for the place in which he resides or with which he is substantially connected; and, therefore, the first logical consequence of the adoption of the principle to which I have referred would embody the transfer of a portion of the county constituency to the towns.

APPOINTMENT OF BOUNDARY COMMISSIONERS.

But, if this principle be adopted, there are certain measures which we think it would be the duty of Parliament to sanction. Since 1832 there has been an immense increase in the population of this country. Irrespective of the ratio of increase, with which we are all acquainted, the creation of railways in particular districts has stimulated the growth of the population—(hear, hear)—and thus it has come to pass that in many boroughs there is a population residing who, for all social and municipal purposes, are part and parcel of the community, but who, for all political purposes, are nothing less than pariahs. ("Hear, hear!" and cheers; and from Mr. Bright the exclamation, "That is the word!") A man votes for the Municipal Government, he pays parochial rates or taxes, he is called on to contribute to all the purposes of local charity and philanthropy, but, because he lives in a part of the borough outside the electoral boundary, he is not permitted to vote for the election of a member of Parliament. All those extramural inhabitants of the boroughs will, if this principle of identity of franchise be adopted, be county voters, and therefore it is proposed that boundary commissioners should visit the different boroughs which have outgrown their former dimensions, and adapt and rearrange them to suit the altered circumstances of the times. I know that the name of the borough Commissioner may cause some alarm in this House; I know that there are traditions of party arrangements effected by that machinery which, whether true or not, is an unpopular recollection in the House of Commons. I believe that, in the present state of public feeling (so moderate is it) and in the general absence of party no such conduct, if it has ever taken place, could be repeated. But it is unnecessary for me to rest on this point, for her Majesty's Government is now in a position to make the House a proposition which will divert it of all suspicion. Since 1832 we have established the machinery of an important public body—the enclosure commissioners—a body of men independent of all party, and we propose to delegate to them the fulfilment of those duties. They will depute deputy commissioners, who will visit the several boroughs. These will make their report to the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of State will embody their arrangements in a bill, and that bill will be submitted to the criticism of this House; and after that no one can suspect any opportunity of making arrangements favourable to any particular party (Hear, hear).

FEARFUL RESULTS OF THE £10 OCCUPATION FRANCHISE.

The House has, I think, a right to ask me whether her Majesty's Government have formed any estimate of what may be the consequence of the change in the number of the county constituents occasioned by the adoption of £10 occupation franchise. That is, no doubt, a point on which all must speak with some degree of hesitation; but there are some materials which are furnished by papers before the House, and there are others which are at our command, which enable us to approximate it. Since I came down to the House I have had a paper put into my hands which, although only a proof published this day, I may be permitted to quote. It is a pamphlet written by a gentleman who ranks as one of the most eminent statistical authorities of the day, Mr. Newmarch. Mr. Newmarch gives an estimate of the effect of the £10 occupation franchise on the county constituency, and he estimates the gross increase at 103,000. I have not had time to ascertain what are the data on which Mr. Newmarch bases his calculation, but I should be disingenuous if I did not inform the House that by the estimate of the Government the increase will be much more considerable (Hear, hear). I should place the addition at no less than 200,000—one-half of which would be furnished by what statisticians call the north-western and south-eastern groups of counties, including, on the one side, Cheshire, Lancashire, and the West Riding of Yorkshire; and on the other, Kent, Sussex, and part of Surrey.

With reference to the gentlemen who have on various occasions expressed their opinion that a £20 occupation franchise is the one which they would prefer to see adopted, I would observe that the number between such a constituency and that upon a £10 franchise would be described by the figures 100,000. But with reference to that view (of changing the county constituency from a £20 to a £10 franchise), I would venture to observe that, so far as I can form an opinion, there is nothing which would make me trust the loyalty and respectability of a man living in a £20 house before that of one living in a £10 house (Hear, hear). I am also bound to be candid to the House, and tell it that the Government calculation of the addition to the county constituencies is irrespective of what may be the results of the arrangement of the boundary commissioners.

I have not yet heard any arguments against this proposition to which I would attach much weight except one, and that not for the strength of its logic, but for the phrase in which it is clothed. It has been said that it may lead to the establishment of electoral districts. If your only protection from electoral districts is a difference between a £10 and a £20 franchise, then I am afraid that electoral districts are not to be resisted; but believing that nothing is more unpopular—nothing more alien to the manners, the customs, and the associations of the people—I have no fear that such a scheme will be adopted until Englishmen lose all pride in their country and all fondness for the locality of their birth and early associations (Hear, hear). No, Sir, electoral districts can never be recognised until you recognise the principle that numerical superiority is the basis of representation in this country, for they can be founded on no other foundation. The measures of her Majesty's Government which I shall have the honour to submit to this House have no other object than to place the representation of the country upon a right principle, and to suit that principle alike to county and borough constituencies.

I have now placed before the House a general view of what we propose to do with the constituent body of the counties (Hear, hear). Our object is to reconstruct that body, with no more view of increasing its numerical strength, but solely with the object of including within that body all those in this country—all those various classes and individuals to whom the privilege of the franchise may be intrusted with safety to the State and consistently with the welfare of the community. If the measure which we recommend be adopted, you will have a great homogeneous constituency, with a great variety of characters—a great homogeneous body between whom there will be no longer feelings of dissatisfaction or mistrust. The elector will elect his representative in the community in which he lives; he will be animated, in the exercise of that high function, by all that sense of duty which influences the Englishman when he performs that high office. I have always thought, Sir, that the idea of a constituency in England should be this: it should be numerous enough to be independent; select enough to be responsible (Cheers). That is the constituency which her Majesty's Ministers believe will be formed by the measure which we have proposed to the House to night.

THE REGISTRY.

And now, having laid before the House the character of the elective body of the country, it becomes me to inform the House how we propose in this measure that that body shall be registered, and how we propose it may vote (Hear). The House is aware that under the present system there is a difference in the method by which the electors of a county and the electors of a borough are registered. In the county the elector has to make his claim; in the borough a public officer frames the list, without any claim being made by the elector. All are aware of the present difficulty which attends a county registration (Cheers). I think nothing can prove it more than this—that, notwithstanding the great increase of population and wealth in this country, the county registry is a decaying registry (hear, hear); and it must always be a decaying registry if you surround the privilege of voting with every obstacle against exercising it (Hear, hear). We propose to put an end entirely to this system. We propose that there shall be in effect a self-acting register; that the overseer in every parish shall furnish a list of owners as well as of occupiers. We believe that there is no difficulty in his doing this, and clauses will be found in the bill which will ensure its complete accomplishment (Hear, hear). If any one's omittance, whether he be owner or occupier, he may make his claim, and a supplementary list will be published; but it will be the primary duty of the officer to make a list of the owners, as well as of the occupiers, which will be furnished to the clerk of the peace, and ultimately to the revising barrister. This is the great change which we propose to make with regard to the registry. There are a great many other regulations in the bill of great interest and importance. I have other matters of gravity before me; and, though the House has treated me with very great and generous indulgence (hear), I feel that I must not dwell upon this part of the bill. The summary of what we propose is this—that there shall be a self-acting registry in future, and that no one shall need to make a claim to be registered unless he finds his name omitted on the register as furnished by the public officer.

MODE OF VOTING.

But, being registered, how shall he vote? (Hear.) We propose to put an end to all those scandals which have of late years been discussed in this House, and to all those bitter controversies to which they have given rise. Are travelling expenses to be paid for ever? (Laughter.) Is there no mode by which we can terminate for ever what may be called this scandal and endless controversy? When we are reconstructing the great constituent body of this country—when we are proposing measures which we hope and believe will complete the representation of the country in this House—is it not an occasion when we should make an effort, if we can, not merely to improve the condition of the voter, but to insure that his vote shall be given in the simplest and the safest manner that we can dev

INCREASE OF POLLING-PLACES.

What we propose in the first place is, that the number of polling-places in the country shall be greatly increased (Cheers). We propose that in every parish where there are 200 electors there shall be a polling-place (Hear, hear). That if there are parishes that have not 200 electors they shall form a group until they reach that number, and shall then have a voting-place. That every elector who votes shall vote in the place in which he resides, whatever may be the place in which he has his qualification; and to effect that object there will be, not merely a qualification-register, but also a residence-register. I know it may be said that this may lead to great expense to the candidate—(hear, hear)—but it is provided by the bill that the candidate shall not be at the expense of these polling-places (Hear, hear). If it is left to the country the expense will be very great; if it is left to the county the expense will be small. Wherever there is a petty session there is generally a police-office, or a place may be hired at the expense of the county; and there are provisions in the bill in this respect which I hope and believe will satisfy hon. gentlemen that this can be effected at a reasonable expense (Hear, hear).

POLLING-PAPERS.

I now come, Sir, to the mode of voting. I propose to let a man vote as he has always voted, and go to the poll if he likes. Far be it from me to diminish this right. What we propose is, that a man shall vote though he may not choose to go to the poll. We propose that those who like shall vote by what are called polling-papers (Hear, hear). I need not remind the House, because I am speaking to gentlemen who are conversant with the various modes of voting, that this is not an experiment to be tried now for the first time, and that there is nothing empirical in the proposition. For years the people of this country have been voting by polling-papers, and we have the advantage of their experience. When you elect a poor-law guardian you elect by a polling-paper. In the Metropolitan Management Act which you lately passed you provided that the officers should be elected by polling-papers (Hear, hear). What is the consequence and result upon the constituency of giving this supplementary mode of voting to the constituent body? Why, that the expression of public opinion is more complete than it is at present under the existing system. Ninety per cent of the constituency created by the Poor Law Act exercise the franchise. But by the great electoral body of England—called upon to select the representatives of the British people to form this famous House of Parliament, that affects the opinions of the world, and possesses the confidence of the most toiling millions that ever congregated together in a country—how is that honoured privilege treated? Not more than fifty or sixty per cent of the constituency register their votes in the performance of this most important duty (Hear, hear). Then it is said that it is impossible to vote by polling-papers; that it would lead to personation, as though there were no personation now; that it would lead to all sorts of collusion and deceit. There was never a proposition in the history of man that it was not the interest or object of some to blacken and distort (Cheers). We believe that you can vote by polling-papers without personation, in an honourable, honest, and satisfactory manner.

What we propose is, that if a man wants to vote by means of a voting-paper, instead of going to the hustings—I do not wish to deprive him of the right to go to the hustings if he pleases to do so—he shall write to the public officer for a voting-paper, which will be in the form contained in the schedule to the bill. That voting-paper will be transmitted in a registered letter by the public officer, and thus there will be evidence of the trans-

mission. The voter will sign the voting-paper in the presence of two witnesses, one of whom must be a householder, and he will then return it to the public officer; also by a registered letter, and this then will be evidence also of its being transmitted back. The paper will be opened before proper parties, and the vote will be registered. It think that a vote given by this machinery will be honestly and properly given, and that there will be no more deception or personation than under the system which at present prevails. The bill provides for the punishment of forgery in personation as a misdemeanour.

NEW MEMBERS FOR YORKSHIRE, LANCASHIRE, AND MIDDLESEX.

I have now placed before the House the main features of what we propose to do with the registration of this constituent body, and I now come to not the least important part of the bill. In attempting, Sir, to deal with this subject—popularly called Parliamentary Reform—her Majesty's Government have endeavoured so far as was in their power—so far as their intelligence could guide them—to offer a proposition to the House which, while it is consistent with their conceptions of the principles upon which the English constitution is founded, at the same time secures for the people of this country a complete representation. One of our first considerations was, of course, the construction of the electoral body, upon which I have treated at such length. But a complete representation does not depend merely upon the electoral body. It also depends upon this, whether under any system the different interests of the country are adequately represented. Now, discarding for ever that principle of population upon which which it has been my duty to make some remarks—accepting as a truth that the function of this House represents not merely the voice of the numerical majority, not merely the gross influence of a predominant property, but the various interests of the country—we have felt that on this occasion it was our duty diligently, and even curiously, to investigate the whole of England, and see where there were interests not represented which even we should wish to be heard here, and whether the general representation of the country could not be matured and completed.

Now, in undertaking this office, it must not be supposed that we have been animated with a feeling that we would only do that which hard necessity requires. Had we been influenced by that feeling it is possible that we might have brought forward a measure which would serve the necessities of the hour and yet leave seeds behind which would germinate in future troubles, controversies, and agitation. We have been sincerely desirous of completing the scheme of 1832 by adapting that scheme to the England of 1859, and to induce the House to come to a general settlement—whether as regards the exercise of the franchise or the direct representation in this House of the various seats of members, which should take this question for a long period of time out of the scope of agitation—a settlement which the calm consideration of the country should regard as just—I will not say final, but as conclusive. Finality is not the language of politics (Laughter). So far as the circumstances of the age in which we live allow, I believe our settlement will be a conclusive settlement; and we have laid it down as our task to consider, without any respect to persons, what we honestly and truly believe to be those interests in this country which should be represented, and which, at this moment, we should counsel the House to add to its members.

I have now to state where we found a want of representation and where we found the representation was not adequate. We found both of these characteristics in the West Riding of Yorkshire and South Lancashire. There we have some distinctive interests which are not represented in this House. We found some very inadequately represented. When I say inadequately, I mean to say that there are several interests in a place returning members, but the return is made by the predominant interests, while the others are lost in the representation. We propose, therefore, to add to the representation of the West Riding of Yorkshire four members. I will not take population or property, because we are not going to offer a proposition to the House merely founded upon population or property. But when we look at the West Riding we find a great territory, seventy miles in length, purely agricultural. We find another division in the West Riding studded with towns not large enough to be represented in this House, but still towns which are remarkable for industry and energy. And we find a place where there is a blending of this variety of interest. We propose, therefore, to add four members to the West Riding, and to divide it, not into great mathematical arrangements of population, but according to the distinctive interests which exist—into the old divisions of the country there, the wapentakes (A laugh). In the three divisions which we propose, if property were the test, that property is identical; for however great the variety in number of the population, the property of the wapentakes stands thus:—In west Yorkshire, with a population of 472,000, the property is £963,000, where we have Dewsbury and a score of similar towns in that part of the country; in north-west Yorkshire, with a population of 129,000, a property of £809,000. In the three divisions the assessment is on £863,000, £809,000, and £808,000.

We propose to add two members to South Lancashire, and make three divisions of the county. We propose one for the Hundred of West Derby, and one for the Hundred of Salford. This division is the same as was proposed by the noble Lord, with the exception of one which he inserted in West Derby. North Lancashire remains unaltered. In the divisions which we have made, not basing our calculations upon population, we find distinctive interests which are not represented in this House, and ought to be represented.

To another county we propose to make an addition of two members—that is, the county of Middlesex, which we propose to divide. By that means the claims of Kensington, Chelsea, and Hammersmith will be heard in this House. By these additions which we propose to make to the counties it would require eight members.

NEW PARLIAMENTARY BOROUGHS.

It is now my duty to call the attention of the House to the want of representation in those places which in our opinion ought to be represented, because we find there distinctive interests which are not fairly represented in this House. Of the places which on this occasion require a distinct representation, Hartlepool and the immediate district we think ought to be distinctly represented. In that place we find a remarkable energy, the inhabitants making rapid progress, and marked by a distinctive character. This case of Hartlepool I rest upon the rapid development of a considerable industry, and the fact that this town has a developed importation of foreign goods more considerable than Manchester. For the same reason, a place where shipping and the mercantile industry of the country have been developed, with their complications, we are of opinion that Birkenhead should be represented. Well, there is Staffordshire, which we think requires and deserves the consideration of this House. It is that part which is called the black country, where an immense industry of a distinctive character has arisen since the Reform Act of 1832. We propose that West Bromwich and Wednesbury shall return one member. I stated that we propose the addition of only two members for South Lancashire, because there are two towns in that division whose interests require representation in this House, and we propose to give members to Burnley and to Staleybridge. This disposes of five additional borough members. Turning now to the south of England, we find a place in the county of Surrey which we think ought to be represented—that is Croydon. In Kent we propose to give a representative to Gravesend—a very ancient town, with a distinctive character—(a laugh)—and in every sense of the word deserving of a representative. We have studied, I do not say the map of England; we have done more. I declare at this moment that if you complete the representation of England according to the principle which influenced her Majesty's Ministers—not according to a numerical majority, but according to the interests of the country—I do not see any other members are required.

NOW THE NEW MEMBERS ARE TO BE SUPPLIED.

Having thus completed the representation by distributing it in accordance with what we might anticipate are the destinies of thriving communities, I now come to consider how those fifteen members are to be supplied ("Hear, hear!" and a laugh). They are to be supplied in the spirit of the Constitution (Laughter). Adopting the policy which has been recognised on previous occasions, and which has been adopted for two centuries by the Sovereigns and the Parliament of England; assuming that which I hope I may assume, that it is the opinion of this House that its members ought not to be increased—(General cheers)—we must find the means of repre-

senting these new interests as means have been found before under similar circumstances—(Laughter at the deferred expectation)—and in the same constitutional sense (Laughter). It is sometimes said that there are constituencies in this country so small that it is indefensible to propose they should be represented ("Hear, hear!" from an hon. member on the opposite side.) I entirely agree with that hon. gentleman's cheer (A laugh).

But arguments may be produced to show that constituencies of 1000 are better than those of 10,000. There are some constituencies very small in size which may perform a very important part in the Constitution, if the principles of the Constitution be still upheld in this House and are still revered in this country (Cheers). And in those rattling schemes (cheers) of disfranchisement with which we were favoured in the autumn, when every gentleman thought it was the easiest thing in the world to sit down in his library and reconstruct from its venerable foundations the English Constitution, if there was one point more than another on which these utopian meddlers (laughter) agreed, it was in the disfranchisement of Arundel (Cheers and laughter). There every vice of the system seemed to concentrate (Hear). It was a small place, it had a small constituency, there was absolute nomination. Well now, Sir, let us hear what has been the practical working of this ancient constituency upon the society among which we are proud to number the member for Arundel as a member. There are 900,000 Roman Catholics in England, scattered and dispersed through every town and over the whole country. What means have they of being represented in this House? It is impossible in the present state of our dealings with our Roman Catholic subjects. There is, however, one Roman Catholic member of Parliament in England who bears a name which ever will be held in honour by England and Englishmen—(cheers); and partially by this ancient portion of the English constitution the 900,000 Roman Catholics of England—men many of them of ancient lineage, of vast possessions, and possessed of feelings which you must respect though you differ from them—representatives of some of the most ancient elements of our society—have found a means of representation in the borough of Arundel. You talk of the small constituency of 900,000. Why, Sir, it is more than the West Riding—it is double the Tower Hamlets (Prolonged cheering). Well, Sir, we are to have it, though it contains so small a constituency.

The House will do me the justice of observing that in the measure which I have brought before them to-night, whatever arrangements may be made with existing boroughs to find means of appointing representatives for bodies who are not represented, no recourse has been had to disfranchisement. This has been avoided by adopting this principle of identity of suffrage, by means of which the voter may either give his vote at the poll or send a voting paper, as he pleases. This was a condition never attained in any previous scheme of Parliamentary Reform. Notwithstanding, we do not feel it our duty to recommend to Parliament that any borough represented by a single member, like Arundel, should lose its member (Hear, hear). We want to distribute the representatives of the country—we want, in short, fifteen seats in this House (Hear, hear). We must, to effect this, fix upon a rule which is necessarily arbitrary. The only condition which the House has a right to ask is that that rule be made equally applicable (Hear, hear).

FIFTEEN BOROUGHS TO LOSE EACH ONE OF THEIR TWO MEMBERS.

In the last census, if you cast your eye over the population returns of boroughs represented in Parliament, you find fifteen boroughs represented by two members the population of each of which is under 6000 ("Hear, hear!" and laughter). There are only fifteen of these boroughs (Laughter). It will be an admirable opportunity for a display of patriotism—(Laughter and cheers)—such as is seldom offered by the circumstances and occasions of society—on the part of the members for these boroughs ("Hear!" and cheers). Sir, I have no personal feeling upon the subject; and I most sincerely and ardently hope that when we have a new Parliament we may all meet again (Laughter and cheers). If these fifteen members of boroughs which, though under 6000 in population, return two members each, would consent, without calling upon any force to compel them, to make this concession, we shall complete the representation of the country according to the principles which I believe this House will approve. And therefore, Sir, in this bill there are provisions that the members of the fifteen boroughs in question should, in the next Parliament, be only represented by one member (Cries of "Name, name!") The House, I am sure, will consider my feelings (Cheers and laughter). I will take care that a copy of the bill shall be in the hands of every hon. gentleman to-morrow morning, with a schedule of their boroughs (Repeated cries of "Name"). It seems invidious to have to answer unnecessary questions, which must be of a personal character (The cries of "Name," however, increasing, the right hon. gentleman complied with the wishes of the House, amidst some cheering, by reading the list). The boroughs will be the following:—Honiton, Thetford, Totnes, Harwich, Eresham, Wells, Richmond, Marlborough, Leominster, Lympington, Ludlow, Andover, Knaresborough, Tewkesbury, and Maldon.

In this statement, Sir, I have no doubt I may have said something which I ought to have omitted in treating of so vast and various a theme; but there will be ample opportunities for explanation, and I implore the House to treat the circumstances of the case with their wonted urbanity (Cheers and calls to "Order"). Therefore I will say no more. I believe this is a measure well adapted to the peculiar circumstances of the case, and I earnestly hope the House will adopt it. I believe, Sir, it is a Conservative measure, using that term in no limited and partial sense, but in the highest and holiest interpretation of which it is capable. I can say sincerely that those who have framed this measure are men who reverence the past, who are proud of the present, and who are confident of the future. Such as it is, I now deliver it to the consideration of the House of Commons, convinced that they will deal with it as becomes the representatives of a wise and understanding people.

The right hon. gentleman sat down amid prolonged cheering, after speaking for three hours and twenty minutes.

Mr. BAXTER said, in his opinion the measure of the right hon. gentleman was most unsatisfactory, omitting as it did to deal with Scotland and Ireland. It was his intention to have moved the resolution relating to Scotland and Ireland of which he had given notice on the House going into Committee of Supply; and feeling much dissatisfied with this sort of piecemeal legislation, he should move an amendment to the motion of the right hon. gentleman. Was it not monstrous that only two counties of Scotland should send but two members to that House? There were the counties of Lanarkshire and Fife; their commercial and general importance entitled them to additional members. From all he heard from the right hon. gentleman, it was quite clear that he did not intend to give additional members to Scotland. Mr. Bright's bill acted more fairly towards Scotland, for it proposed to give seventeen members to that country. The right hon. gentleman might depend upon it that unless he was disposed to do justice to Scotland and Ireland, he might expect opposition to his measure. He opposed this bill on two grounds—first, because it was unjust to Scotland; and, second, because in his opinion it did not meet the fair claim of the people of this country as regarded Reform, and they would be dissatisfied and disappointed with the measure. The working classes of this country had advanced in intelligence since 1832, and their claims for the franchise ought to have been granted to them. He thought the reduction of the franchise to £5 in boroughs would have been most desirable, and far from being a revolutionary proposal; nor did he think it was sufficient to disfranchise only fifteen seats. Upon all these grounds he begged to move as an amendment, the motion which stood in his name on the paper, which was as follows:—"That it is expedient to consider the laws relating to the representation of the people in England and Wales, and Scotland and Ireland, not separately, but in one measure."

Sir G. F. LEWIS wished to know whether he intended to make any arrangement in reference to the four seats vacant at St. Albans and Sudbury, or whether he intended to assign them to places hitherto unrepresented, or whether he intended to diminish the representatives of the House by that number of seats?

Mr. HEADLAM said there were many portions of the measure to which he was opposed; but, considering the opinions by whom the Government were supported, he thought the measure was a liberal one. The proposal with respect to the places to be disfranchised did not materially affect the constitution of the House, and he had no objection to the disfranchisement

principle so far as it went. He objected to the principle of limiting the franchises in counties, as would be the case by depriving the holders of certain properties of the right of voting. He also objected to their giving the right of voting in boroughs to 40s. freeholders, as it would enable the holders of such properties to create any given quantity of votes to suit his purpose. He also objected to that part of the bill which extended the boundaries of the boroughs. But considering the measure as a whole he was bound to say that it was in principle a good measure of reform. He, however, reserved to himself the right of considering the details hereafter.

Mr. DONSON said the right hon. gentleman calculated that the county voters by his plan would be increased by 200,000; but could he state by how many they would be diminished by having the forty-shilling freeholders taken from them?

Lord DUNCAN wished to know when they would see the bill for amending the representation of Scotland? That bill should be printed and extensively circulated, in order that they might have an opportunity of collecting the opinions of their constituents upon it.

Mr. BLACKBURN said that either by property or population Scotland had a claim to sixty-five members, or one-tenth of the entire representation. He hoped the amendment put forward by the hon. member for Montrose would be withdrawn. He thought four or five seats could be found that might be appropriated to Scotland. There were large masses of population there not properly represented, and he hoped therefore that the amendment of the honourable member for Montrose would be withdrawn, in order that the whole subject might be fully considered on a suitable occasion.

Colonel SYKES thought there ought to be one general bill for the whole kingdom.

Mr. KINNAIRD said he hoped the amendment of the hon. member for Montrose would be withdrawn, as it could then lead to no useful result.

Mr. VANCE said he regretted there was not one general bill for the United Kingdom.

Mr. CLAY agreed in the justice of the object the hon. member for Montrose had in view; but he thought if it was persevered in it would only retard any reform at all. He could not help regretting that the franchise in boroughs had not been lowered. That would have been better than the somewhat complicated machinery of this bill. He thought that a very large class of people in the boroughs would think they had been betrayed. Had the right hon. gentleman made any calculation of the number of voters that would be called into existence by the numerous schemes of this bill? He approved of the expenses of polling falling upon the county rates, but was there any similar scheme for the boroughs? He had himself on one occasion paid more than £400 expenses.

Mr. BAXTER said that, in consequence of the numerous appeals made to him, he should withdraw his amendment.

Mr. CRAWFORD protested against the cavalier way in which Scotland had been treated in this bill. It did not appear that any notice was to be taken of Scotland. He was surprised that the Lord Advocate had given them no information on this subject.

Sir J. OGILVIE expressed his astonishment that no bill was intimated to have been prepared either for Scotland or Ireland.

The LORD ADVOCATE said he could assure honourable members that this delay in speaking did not arise from any disrespect, but in order that he might answer all questions at once. It was intended to introduce a Reform Bill for Scotland, which would be substantially upon the same principles as the English Reform Bill (Hear). There were differences in the laws of the two countries which required consideration and time to deal with, and therefore the House would not expect him to enter into any details upon that occasion—(hear, hear)—but they were not to conclude that it was not intended to increase the number of Scotch members.

Mr. LOCKE complained that the metropolitan constituencies were not fairly treated in the Government bill, seeing that it contained no provision for the extension of the franchise in boroughs. But the right honourable gentleman at the same time extended the franchise in counties, not only directly, by the £10 franchise, but also indirectly, by giving what he called the extramural voters the privilege of voting in towns. The effect of this would in his (Mr. Locke's) opinion be to bring the towns more and more under the influence of the landed aristocracy. On the whole, he felt sure that whatever might be the fate of the bill in the House, it certainly would not meet a favourable reception from the country.

Mr. NEWDEGATE acknowledged that Scotland had some right to complain, but claimed precedence for the grievance of the English counties, which received less consideration in the present bill than in that of the noble Lord the member for London, introduced by him when in the Cabinet of Lord Aberdeen.

Mr. FOX objected to this bill, as not carrying out the principles of the bill of 1832, nor making any effort in the direction of the emancipation of the working classes. The Reform Act of 1832 was a great step in favour of the middle classes, whom it almost exclusively admitted to the franchise, while it excluded the working men, who were certainly quite as intelligent as the classes immediately above them. There might not have been any compact in that House, but there certainly was one in society at the passing of the Reform Bill, to the effect that if the working classes then assisted the middle classes in getting their emancipation, the latter would subsequently reciprocate the service. Why should they be afraid of the working classes any more than £10 electors should fear the twenty-pounders, and so on? He did not think that society was divided regularly into strata like the earth, but was separated perpendicularly as much as horizontally, and that there were no grounds for thinking that by emancipating one class you would create an enemy against all others. He begged thus early to enter his protest against this bill on the single ground that it did not contain any provisions for the emancipation of the working classes (Hear, hear).

Lord J. RUSSELL—I admit that the Government, in preparing a bill for the amendment of the representation, undertook a task of great difficulty, but it will also be admitted that it would be a task of much difficulty to enter into all the details of so comprehensive a bill as the present on the first night of its introduction. But there were two points treated by the right hon. gentleman upon which I have long thought, and upon which I require no time to make up my mind, and his allusions to which, I must own, filled me with very grave apprehension (Hear, hear). The first point respected a class of freeholders who at present vote in counties, and who, if I understood the right hon. gentleman, are to do so no longer, but instead are to be given the privilege of voting in boroughs. Now, it appears to me that this is a very perilous innovation (Hear, hear). It provides for the extinction of the right of voting in a constituency of 90,000 or 100,000 persons, a class, too, which has enjoyed the franchise for a period of 400 years. It is proposed without any inquiry, without any consent of theirs, to deprive them of their right by a summary Act of Parliament. So far from considering this class of franchise as an evil which requires a remedy, it has always appeared to me as one having great advantages. It has always appeared to me that this mixture of town and county in the exercise of the franchise was a most satisfactory feature in the representative machinery of the country. And that is no opinion of to-day; because, at the time of the Reform Act, when certain Peers were willing to support the bill on the condition that freeholders in towns should not vote except in the towns, I declared to Lord Grey that if the bill were sent down from the House of Lords with such a provision I should move its omission, being prepared to risk the fate of the bill rather than consent to such a disfranchisement (Cheers). With regard to very many of those persons the present bill will be one of complete disfranchisement, because as £10 householders they already have a vote in the towns, and therefore allowing them to vote in virtue of their 40s. freehold will confer on them no privilege; and all this is done without giving them any compensation whatever. I cannot but think that when this proposition goes forth to the country there will be great alarm produced. For my own part, whenever I have thought over the defects of the Reform Bill, it has never occurred to me that the 40s. freehold was one of its greatest blemishes (Hear, hear). That is, therefore, one part of the Government proposition which has given me great pain; for, supposing it should succeed—supposing it should succeed in severing town and country—what effect could it have except to generate ill blood between country and town, and great discontent between owners and occupiers of land and those who are engaged in trade. My next objection is to an omission in the bill, and one which appears to me to be of a very serious character. Ever since I departed from that system of finality which Lords

Grey and Althorp had always insisted on, I have done so on this ground which appeared to me to be the only ground for disturbing a vast and complicated subject—viz., that with regard to a great body of the working classes the Reform Bill had done little or nothing in the way of enfranchisement. With regard to them the right hon. gentleman does little or nothing beyond that which I arrived at in 1837—namely, giving the franchise to depositors in the savings-banks. I should say that with regard to one class people are very well satisfied with the law as it stands, but that as regards the working classes the new bill will be extremely unsatisfactory. The working classes, who, by all your changes, by your reduction of duties, by your enabling them to get their food cheaper, and, above all, by your enabling them to get their news and political discussions cheaper, have become more fit to exercise the political franchise, and feeling themselves perfectly fit, are dissatisfied that they should be any longer debarred from it (Cheers). Then, as my hon. friend stated, and stated very fairly, seeing that two Governments have brought in bills according to one of which a £5 rating qualification, and another a £6, was to confer the right of voting, these bills have naturally raised expectations. That those exact definitions should be taken, that the qualification should be exactly what was there laid down, I by no means mean to contend; but I do think that if a bill of this kind is to give any satisfaction to the country, the great body of the working classes, some hundreds of thousands I should say, ought to be admitted to the franchise (cheers), and the country will be the stronger for their admission (cheers), whereas you deprive yourself of that additional strength while you continue to exclude them. Well, Sir, these two points in the statement of the right hon. gentleman gave me, as I say, great apprehensions. With regard to the question of what amount of seats are to be disposed of by the bill, and the amount of seats taken away, and as to the increase in the number of polling-places, or the voting by papers, I wish to give no opinion whatever. But this I should say on the whole question, that, unless this House is prepared to give more general satisfaction to the people—unless they mean to change the representation for the better—they had better not attempt to change it at all (Cheers). I can well understand that the country should bear very well going on for a time discussing these matters without any change in the present mode of voting; but what I do not understand is, that the country should obtain from Parliament, if I may call it obtaining—should receive from Parliament, or should have inflicted upon it a bill changing the representation, with all the quality of innovation about it, with a good deal of change, a good deal of disfranchisement of honest, hard-working men (Murmurs from the Ministerial side and cheers from the Opposition). I repeat it, disfranchisement of honest men who are now exercising their votes—(cheers)—that they should have that inflicted upon them, and that they should be satisfied with the representation as thus given. On the contrary, unless you give satisfaction—not that everybody shall have exactly what he wishes, for that would be very difficult; but unless you produce some kind of satisfaction, depend upon it the bill that you could pass would only be a fresh renewal of agitation (Cheers). It would produce a great deal more discontent than it would contentment in the country. Sir, I shall consider the bill when it comes in; I shall see whether the Provisions of this bill agree with the statement of the right hon. gentleman. As the matter at present stands, it does not appear to me to be an improvement on the state of the representation; but, above all, it does not appear to me as a Conservative measure. I could well understand a Conservative Minister saying, this question of the representation should be settled, and we do not propose to change it until something is produced which shall appear to us to improve the present state of things; but that a Conservative Minister should produce a great measure of this kind, excluding 90,000 or 100,000 people; that they should refuse to admit the working classes to the franchise, and thereby not produce anything but an appetite for further change, passes my comprehension (Cheers).

Mr. ROEBUCK: Change, Sir, is in itself an evil; change in legislation is only justifiable when the change leads to a better state of things. Now my charge against the proposal of the right hon. gentleman is that it is a change which leads to a worse state of things (Cheers). The right hon. gentlemen stated one principle which I cannot possibly understand. He said he was about to base the representation of the people not upon population, not upon wealth, but upon their interests. Now, I want to know what is the meaning of their interests? Then, he says, he is about to give to certain towns certain members, and to disfranchise certain towns, and take away certain members. And upon what principle does he do this? Why, he disfranchises all the boroughs (some fifteen) which have not 6000 inhabitants, thereby making population the ground of disfranchisement, though he is not going to apply the principle of population beyond that. Now, my notion of representation is this, that the representative body is a body of watchmen on the Government. The Government has certain powers, and those powers may be applied to mischief unless the representative body watch over Government. But how shall we prevent the representative body themselves from doing wrong? Why, by making them responsible to the whole people, or those who represent the whole people; and how can you have anybody representing the whole people who have not all the passions, all the interests, all the feelings of the people whom they represent? But is the representative body we now have one that proceeds from the whole people? Why was the Reform Bill passed in 1832, or brought in by the noble Lord in 1831? Because power in this country was held by one class, the landed aristocracy. The right hon. gentleman has said that the object of that bill was to give power to the middle classes. So it did, and I recollect the conduct of the working classes on that occasion (Cheers). What did they say? They said to the middle classes, "This bill will not give us power; but we have such confidence in you, our fellow-countrymen, that we will aid you to put down the opposition of the landed aristocracy, and enable you to get the franchise for yourselves." Without the working classes upon that occasion there would have been no Reform Bill. They behaved in a way that I shall never forget, and in a way that the middle classes of England ought never to forget. And I now appeal, in the name of the working classes of this country, to the middle classes of England, and I say to them—In 1832 you founded your power by the aid of the working men, and I call upon you, as honest and generous men, not to neglect the interests of those by whom you were aided upon that occasion (Cheers). The right hon. gentleman's bill adds not one iota to the power of the working classes of this country (Cheers). It is a bill of disfranchisement, not enfranchisement; it disfranchises the freeholder of the county, but it gives no power to anybody in the borough. Why, what does it do? I will suppose the town I represent. I have no doubt that in that town there are many thousands of county voters. Every man is disfranchised as a county voter; but, living in the town, he has a vote now for the town. Therefore the bill confers nothing upon him, but takes away from him his power in the county. And what does it do, Sir? Why, it enhances the power of the landed gentry, and that is the object of the bill at the present time (Cheers). Now, I tell the right hon. gentleman and his friends, I and many persons in this House, with the full consent of our constituencies, have given them a very complete and undeviating support; but sure I am, Sir, that twenty-four hours will not pass over my head before I receive statements from my constituents that with their consent this support shall not be continued (Cheers). Why, Sir, we have given the right honourable gentleman and his friends our support, because we thought that they would see their own position, and the position of this country, and that they would apply the power which we maintained for them to the good government of the country. Now, Sir, I find that in the place of that, in place of this generous and liberal mode in which I thought they would act, they are now bringing in a bill for the purpose of enhancing the power of the gentlemen behind them (Cheers from the Opposition, and sounds of dissatisfaction from the Ministerial side). The right honourable gentleman has thought only of his friends behind him; he has not thought of those whom I dare say he does not call his friends, but by whom he has been supported and kept in office (Murmurs from behind the Treasury benches, and cheers on the Opposition side, above and below the gangway). I am fairly speaking out. The right honourable gentleman knows as well as I do that by the generous support which he has received on this side of the House he has been maintained in his present position (Hear, hear). Sir, I say that considering this bill, and looking at it as explained by the right honourable gentleman—I only judge of it by his explanation, which I take

to be accurate—I say now, and I say it emphatically, that at every stage it will be opposed, and steadfastly opposed, by every friend of the people in this House (Cheers).

Mr. BRIGHT: In the common affairs of life we generally find that when men undertake to do that for which they are not fitted either by nature or by inclination they do not generally succeed very well (Cheers). The right hon. gentleman, I dare say, could have made a much better bill for the reform of the representation, but he appears on this occasion, unfortunately, to represent a party which has always persistently opposed any extension of political power to the people (Cheers). I have regretted very much that he and his friends have consented to open this question, and to make a pretence of settling it. I think there was some show of reason when they charged a late eminent statesman with doing wrong in undertaking matters which his opponents ought to have undertaken; but in his case he always admitted that he was thoroughly convinced of the new principles he had adopted. The right hon. gentleman and his friends have never yet expressed to us clearly anything by which we could gather that they have undergone anything like real conversion. I do not think it is possible, with the unacquaintance of hon. gentlemen opposite with the opinions prevailing in the towns and cities of the country on this question—I did not think it possible that they could either bring in or support a measure such as the country expects from that Government which shall undertake the reform of the representation. Now, who has asked for this bill? I never heard a gentleman on the other side of the House remonstrate with any one of his leaders because they were not anxious and zealous on the question of Reform. I never heard any of their supporters in the country, at public meetings, arguing in favour of any change in the representation. I have never seen in their newspapers any leading articles in favour of it. In point of fact, so far as they are concerned, I presume if they had not thought that the exigencies of party required it, they would have preferred there should have been no attempt at a reform bill at all. Well, that was precisely the position which they ought to have taken up, if they thought it was one which was good for the country, or good for that portion of the people which they represent. But there is, on the contrary, a very large portion of the people who do ask, and have asked constantly and incessantly for the last twenty-five years, that there shall be an amendment of the Reform Act passed in 1832. What has been the special grievance? What is it that the majority of those who have made this request to Parliament have laid before us? Why, they have stated unanimously that, so far as regards the largest portion of the population of the United Kingdom, the Reform Act was so framed, and purposely so framed, as to exclude them from the enjoyment of the franchise. They have said that those persons, a great portion of the population of this country, who live upon weekly wages, do not live in houses of the value of £10, and that therefore to fix the franchise at £10 was to draw a line which of necessity excluded them, and made them—if I may quote a word which the right hon. gentleman has used to-night—pariahs (Hear, hear). The Reform Bill placed the great bulk of the working classes in that position. I am not complaining of that bill in the least, but I should have the utmost contempt—no, I will not say contempt—but I should be utterly hopeless of the working classes of this country if I thought they could remain content under a general exclusion like that (Cheers). Well, then, in obedience to the will of the great body of the unfranchised people, whom some of us on this side of the House represent in some degree, and have for some years past, upon this question—in obedience to this call you propose a bill; and your newspapers have told us, for they latterly have become reformers, how liberal this bill was to be, and how "the bread was to be taken out of the mouth"—that was one of their phrases—of the noble Lord the member for the city of London. Well, the bill comes in; and, when it goes to-morrow morning throughout the United Kingdom, every one of those men—working, toiling, serving, paying taxes, and fulfilling all the duties of citizens—will see that as he was an outcast in 1832 he must be an outcast still in 1859 (Hear, hear). What are the modes by which the right hon. gentleman proposes to add to the franchise, for I believe he does not even pretend that they are means by which the working classes are to be admitted? There is personal property. But first of all there is every man who is a lodger and pays a rent of 8s. a week; that cannot refer to the working classes. Then every graduate of an University, and very few of those gentlemen, in England certainly, can be considered as of the working class (A laugh). Then, there are ministers of religion. These are all persons, who, I believe, now have votes; and therefore any pretence of including them is merely a pretence, and nothing better. Then there are the gentlemen of the law, and the gentlemen who practise medicine; that is—for you must be very careful lest you admit anybody who should not have a vote, those who are registered under the late Act. Why, there might be poison in a vote, such is the rigidity with which men are to be excluded. Well, then, schoolmasters who have certificates, I suppose from the Committee of Privy Council—but why are you to have exclusions of this nature? Are there no schoolmasters throughout the kingdom to whom you will extend votes but those to whom a right honourable member of this House has given certificates of competency? Why, I should be ashamed to come before this House and the public, and to offer franchise of this trifling, and, I will even say, of this insulting character (Cheers). Then there is personal property; if a man has that to the value of £10, which he has invested in the funds, in Bank Stock, or India Stock, or other things which I suppose we shall know to-morrow morning, then he, as well as anybody who happens to have £60 in the savings bank, is to be a voter. To be original, the right hon. gentleman has departed from the sum which the noble Lord gave in one of his bills, and which was £50. Even in this little matter there must be an abstinence from that, I will say, insufficient liberality which marked the bill of the noble Lord. Now, only just look at the savings-bank qualification. Imagine some young man who has saved £60, of whom there are some thousands in the country, and put it into the savings-bank. Suppose anything happens—that his parents fall into sickness, or what is still more likely, that he should think of entering into the marriage state. He withdraws his £60, and he furnishes a house of £6 or £7, or £8 a year rental; he settles down with additional ties in the country, and there is additional reason to believe in his love of order and obedience to the laws. But the very fact of his taking that course cuts away his franchise, and he is put into that class of outcasts to which the honourable gentleman has referred (Hear, hear). I say, all these fancy franchises are absurd; they seem to me to be proposed and intended to make it appear that you are giving something, when they really spring from the fear you have lest you should give something. The noble Lord has referred to another point in this bill, which, if there were no other objection, must be absolutely fatal to it, and that is the question of the transfer with regard to the freehold votes in boroughs. We understand that very well, and I suppose the hon. gentlemen opposite understand it. It is a compensation for the hon. gentlemen opposite for consenting to the £10 franchise. Never was anything more valueless or puerile offered us by way of compensation. The noble Lord has said that he believed it would interfere with Parliamentary franchise of about 100,000 electors. Of the whole number of county electors, I believe nearly 100,000 are electors by right of freehold property in the various boroughs of the kingdom. Now I, or some friends of mine, have taken the trouble, in anticipation of the right hon. gentleman's proposal, to make a dissection of the registry of two boroughs, and the House will permit me to quote the figures. I have had the registers of the borough of Manchester and Salford dissected, to ascertain how this would work. In Manchester there are of freehold qualifications for South Lancashire, situated within the limits of the borough, 2918. Of the persons owning these qualifications there are living within the limits of the borough 1493. Of those living outside the borough there are 1425. Of the whole number, there are 1195 who are already electors of Manchester by virtue of their £10 household or other occupation. These will cease to be voters for the county, but will have no additional vote for Manchester or any other borough, and therefore, so far as the county representation goes, they are absolutely disfranchised to that extent. There are 293 residents in the borough who are not now electors for the borough, and who, under the right hon. gentleman's plan, I presume, being disfranchised for the county, will become electors for the borough of Manchester. There remains, then, 1425 residents outside the borough, who live in all parts of England, or, so far as I know, of the world. In all probability they may be found in every county of England. Now, I do not know whether he intends that these non-resident freeholders of the

borough are to vote for the borough or not. If they are, he re-establishes that most evil system of a large non-resident constituency, which will make it additionally necessary that the Act passed last Session should be repealed by which candidates are allowed to pay the travelling expenses of electors. In Salford I find the figures give a very similar result. It therefore follows that if there be 100,000 freeholders in boroughs from whom the right hon. gentleman is about to cut off the vote for the county, there are about 40,000 of them who, if they are not made non-resident voters throughout the whole country, will be disfranchised altogether. Of course, the 40,000 persons who now vote for counties by reason of their property in boroughs, and have at the same time votes for boroughs, will suffer absolute disfranchisement in the matter of election for counties. I am certain the House of Commons will never attempt to pass any such clause as that (Hear, hear). I do not think it would be possible to contrive anything more likely to create dissatisfaction throughout the country, and a want of belief in the justice of Parliament, than a measure of this description. Its object is to make the counties even more exclusive than they are at present. There is nothing you seem so much afraid of as having a free constituency in counties. I daresay the House is not well aware of the remarkable fact that in a very large portion of the counties of England for many years past the constituencies have not only not been extended, but have positively diminished. The right honourable gentleman referred to the tables of Mr. Newmarch. I also have referred to Mr. Newmarch's tables, and they show that in eleven counties the names of which I need not read, for the House knows them well enough—(laughter)—the constituencies have decreased between the year 1832 and the year 1857 to the extent of 2000 votes. The very fact shows how necessary it is to have an extension of the county franchise. Whilst the whole franchise in counties has only increased to the extent of 36,000, more than 17,000 of that number have been added to the constituencies in Lancashire, Cheshire, and the West Riding of Yorkshire (Hear, hear). Throughout all the rest of England and Wales, such is the difficulty of purchasing freeholds, and to such an extent have farms been increased in size, that the constituencies of almost all the counties are stationary, and, as I have already said, in some of them there has been actual diminution. The right hon. gentleman proposed to add, according to Mr. Newmarch's tables, 103,000; according to his own statement, 200,000; but, according to my calculation, 150,000. That was what the right hon. gentleman proposed to do, but he is afraid of the hon. gentlemen behind him; and if he follows them they will be his ruin (Laughter). The right hon. gentleman insists on transferring 100,000 freeholders from counties to boroughs. Now, those who want a Reform Bill wish to have a much better distribution of the electoral power. But the right hon. gentleman, with an audacity that is positively interesting (laughter), tells them that their case is amply considered, because, owing to the fanaticism which has existed in the country—and I hope the argument will be found conclusive with those members for North Warwickshire—a certain single Roman Catholic is returned for Arundel. Did the right hon. gentleman know that, when he was justifying the retention of Arundel, he was trifling with the interests of Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, and other large cities and towns (Hear, hear). The right hon. gentleman may rely upon it that all this will be quite understood by those who read the newspapers to-morrow morning (Cheers). It would have been much better for him if he had stood on the ancient practice of his party, who have resisted changes of this nature, or have modified those which others have introduced, instead of bringing forward a measure like this, which will create nothing but anger and disgust throughout the great body of the people of this country (Cheers). The noble Lord says this measure is not conservative. No measure affecting the representation of the people is conservative which merely disturbs and does nothing to settle. Now, I am not so anxious about Reform as not to admit that it matters little whether a reform bill passes this year or next year, or any year within five years. Countries are not bound up to the legislation of one Session or one day. But when a member of a Government having the confidence of the Crown, speaking from that bench, undertakes to meddle with a great question this nature, he is a thousand times less conservative than those who have been discussing a new scheme throughout the country. If the right hon. gentlemen alludes to my bill, I tell him that it is a very old scheme. It is a scheme which, sixty years ago, was propounded by able and leading men in this country. It was defended by able and leading men about the time of the Reform Bill; and there has been no time, from the year 1790 up to 1859, when the main principles of the propositions which I have submitted to the country have not been upheld and maintained by leading statesmen, sometimes in both Houses of Parliament, and always by the leading and patriotic minds throughout the country (Hear, hear). I have no objection whatever to the scheme of the right hon. gentleman going to the population of the United Kingdom alongside of my scheme. Population is to have nothing to do with the scheme of the right hon. gentleman. Wealth is to have nothing to do with it. Now, if we take away population and wealth, what is the use of reform bills, or Parliaments, or Chancellors of the Exchequer, or of Ministers? (Laughter.) The proposition of the right hon. gentleman is a mass of subterfuges. He talked of "interests," but he never explained what an interest was. Interests! Surely they consist of the great wants and great wishes of the people. The right hon. gentleman has taken a plan, and a most successful one—and I thank him for it—he has taken a plan which no doubt will enable him to find out what is the opinion of the people with regard to this great question (Cheers). I am not anxious for violent political discussions or angry contests, either out of doors or in the House of Commons (Ironical cheering). I hoped that the experience of the years 1831 and 1832 would have led any Government that undertook the settlement of this question to have dealt with it upon some broad and comprehensive principle. I hoped, when he rose to-night—for I did not believe the descriptive sketch which I saw in a certain newspaper, the support of which was perhaps sought by the communication of early information—I hoped he would have taken the bread out of my mouth, and have brought forward a bill which, if not so good as mine, would still have been so worthy of public approbation that I could have given it my honest and hearty support, and should not have been forced, as I now fear I shall be, to ask the House on an early day to allow me to introduce a bill which, whatever honourable gentleman may think, I believe the more they examine it the more they consider it, the more they will find it based upon the principles of the Reform Bill and of the Constitution, and that it will have an infinitely more conservative tendency, looking forward to the next fifty years, than the bill of the right honourable gentleman, which will disturb everything, will irritate vast numbers of the people, and will settle nothing (Cheers).

Mr. DRUMMOND (who spoke very inaudibly) said he entirely agreed with the hon. gentleman who had just sat down—(cheers and laughter)—and thought it a most unfortunate thing for the public interests that the Government should have entered upon the consideration of a subject of this kind. The noble Lord the member for the City disapproved of the measure. But he was one of the very people who had instigated the Government to take it up (Laughter). Although the members of her Majesty's Government were not accustomed to play this tune, the noble Lord had urged them to begin, and he (Mr. Drummond) thought it rather hard that the House should be called upon to hear a concert from professional non-performers who were utterly unfit to conduct a decent melody (Laughter). But why did not the noble Lord

Take the goods the gods provide him,
With lovely Thais close beside him?

He quite agreed with the noble Lord that the measure did not go to the real point. He could not understand the object nor the means by which the object was to be obtained. He perfectly understood what the last bill was. It was an act of vengeance by the Whigs on the parties who had so long kept them out of power (Laughter). To obtain that end they deceived their master, they undermined the Throne, they abused the House of Lords, they threatened, if they could not carry their measure by any other means, they would head an insurrection ("Hear, hear," and laughter). They succeeded in their object, and there was always some merit in success. He knew what was the object of the bill of the hon. member for Birmingham, and therefore was able to meet him, but he could not understand how he was to meet the bill of the Government. Now, what was

the meaning of this cry for Reform? It meant to take taxation off yourself and put it upon somebody else (Laughter). The hon. member for Birmingham was the only man who had honesty enough to state his object, and ability to carry it out. But what did the Government bill mean? At the beginning of the Reform agitation he said there was no principle in the £10 franchise any more than in one of £9 19s. 6d. It was impossible to stop short of universal suffrage, and to that they would have to come at last (Laughter). It did not follow that such a plan would be revolutionary. But it was revolutionary to give political power into the hands of men who had no property themselves, and who wished to have the power of disposing of the property of others. That was the grand problem to be solved, but it was not solved by either of the Government Bills, or that of the hon. member for Birmingham. He admitted that the franchise ought to be extended to the working classes, but the difficulty was to find out by what means that could be done, and the parties who were fitted for the enjoyment of the privilege.

Lord PALMERSTON did not rise to discuss the merits of the bill, and thought it would be better to defer the expression of his opinion until the measure should be on the table, inasmuch as there were certain points which required considerable explanation. He wished to guard himself against any inference being drawn one way or the other, if he abstained from going into details; but he would suggest to the right hon. gentleman that it would be very convenient if he would state to the House when he intended to propose the second reading, and if he would allow a sufficient interval to elapse between the introduction and the second reading to enable the House and the country to consider the details of the measure (Hear).

Mr. CROSSLEY, having travelled a distance of two hundred miles to hear the statement of the right hon. gentleman, must be allowed to express his regret at the result. It was full of high-sounding words, but there was very little in them. To use a homely Yorkshire expression, "there was a great deal more cloth than dinner" (Laughter). The working classes had neither part nor lot in the matter. There could be no better proof of this than the condition of the borough which he had the honour to represent. He employed, in addition to women and children, not less than 1300 men, not one of whom had a vote (Hear). The bill of the right hon. gentleman would meddle with the evil without settling it. He was sorry to say that, taking into consideration the present bill and the Church Rates Bill, he and those who acted with him would be unable to give the Government that support which was necessary to keep them in power. He was sorry for this, because they were so badly off for leaders on that (the Opposition) side of the House (Laughter). The noble Lord the member for Tiverton was a bad Parliamentary Reformer, and the noble Lord the member for the City was not a good ecclesiastical Reformer; and at would have been very satisfactory if the present occupants of the Treasury Bench would have taken a step in advance, so as to be allowed to retain office until the Liberal party were prepared with leaders (Laughter).

Mr. B. JAMES said he should reserve for a future occasion the opinion which he should venture to express to the House on this bill. He would now merely say that he did not think the bill would be satisfactory to the Liberals of this country. He believed that there were a large number of individuals in this country who were calmly and anxiously expecting that the franchise which they deserved by their intelligence would be extended to them by any reform bill which would be introduced in the House of Commons, and he could not help thinking that the bill which the Chancellor of the Exchequer had introduced with so much adroitness was rather addressed to the present electoral body than to the present majority of the House of Commons. It was a dream on the part of the Government to think that this bill would be satisfactory. It was not a measure which was entitled to or which would receive the approbation of the country.

Mr. BENTINCK did not rise to canvass the details of the bill, with which he had not had time to make himself acquainted. An hon. member had said it was not in the nature of those who sat on that side of the House to be in favour of reform. All he could say was, without expressing an opinion as to whether it was desirable that a reform bill should be immediately laid on the table of the House, if the question were put to him, "Reform or no reform?" he should be compelled to say he was for reform; and for this reason—that he could not understand any man getting up and saying he was not for reform who was not the avowed supporter in all its details of the bill of 1832. He had always looked upon that bill as one of the most one-sided, unjust, and iniquitous measures that was ever carried amid excitement for party purposes. Having said he was in favour of reform, he would say a word about a bill which had been brought, not before the House, but before the country, by a distinguished member of the House, the member for Birmingham. That honourable member had addressed numerous assemblies, and he had perused his speeches with the greatest possible attention, and he was bound to tell the honourable member that the only conclusion to which he could arrive was that his opinions were those of a leveller and a Communist. It appeared to him that the honourable member had appealed to the worst passions of mankind; he had told the country that a hereditary house of legislation was incompatible with free institutions.

Mr. BRIGHT: I beg your pardon.

Mr. BENTINCK: Then the honourable gentleman has been very much misrepresented.

Mr. BRIGHT: No doubt.

Mr. BENTINCK said the honourable member was so reported. Then the honourable member had ascribed the existence of poverty in a great measure to property being concentrated in the hands of a few individuals. He appealed to the House whether that was a conciliatory or a peaceful doctrine? The honourable member had referred a great deal to the Constitution of the United States. Now, he believed there was no country in Europe where the same average amount of distress existed as to be found in the United States ("Question").

Mr. RICH rose to order. The question before the House was whether a certain bill was to be read a first time, but the hon. gentleman was speaking of another bill.

The SPEAKER said he thought the hon. gentleman was rather stretching his privilege, but he could not say that he was out of order.

Mr. BENTINCK said the hon. member told the House that the House of Lords represented the landed interest. He (Mr. Bentinck) thought that the Peers were entitled to a share in the representation of the House of Commons, and he thought the resolution passed by the House, that Peers should not interfere in elections, was most unjust.

Mr. P. O'BRIEN expressed a hope that when the Chancellor of the Exchequer spoke in reply he would state whether that large portion of the empire represented by 105 members in that House was to be totally ignored (a laugh); in other words, whether they were to have a Reform Bill in reference to Ireland.

Mr. ROUFFELL said he had hoped, when anticipating the Reform Bill of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that he should have had an opportunity of tendering the right hon. gentleman his support; but now that he knew what that scheme was he was equally happy in promising him his opposition (A laugh). The mountain had been in labour and had brought forth a mouse. Great expectations had been raised, but the only concession made in the scheme to popular opinion was that which had been extorted last year by a majority of members on the Opposition side of the House on the motion of the hon. member for East Surrey (Mr. Locke King). He (Mr. Rouffell) objected to all complicated franchises. He objected also to the disfranchisement of the 40s. freeholders, who had always been the exponents of liberal opinions in the counties. He hoped, in dealing with this question of reform, the independent members would remember the promises they had made at the hustings, and that they might have soon to present themselves again before their constituents.

Mr. S. BOOTH said he must protest against the assertion that the Conservative or country party was likely to derive any benefit whatever from the bill proposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. At the same time he would not say that the measure was not one which ought to receive the support of members on that (the Ministerial) side of the House. It was a bill which, while it would largely augment the number of voters, would disturb as little as any measure could possibly do that fair balance of interests which had been for so many years maintained in that House (Hear, ear).

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in replying, said he should confine himself to answering inquiries which had been made. The right hon. member for Radnor had inquired what was the intention of the Government with respect to the four seats reserved by the disfranchisement of Sudbury and St. Albans. The intention of the Government with regard to these seats was that they should still remain reserved; and probably, in the course of their discussion on the other arrangements which would follow the bill now before the House, there might be an opportunity of deliberating on the best mode of apportioning them (Laughter). The hon. gentleman the member for Sussex asked him whether the Government had any estimate of the reduction of the constituencies by transferring the borough freeholds from the counties? There was a return already—he believed two returns—on the table of the House on the subject, and he believed the last return gave the number at 105,000. The same gentleman asked him whether the 40s. freeholder would vote for the borough in which he resided? He would vote for the borough in which he resided if his 40s. qualification was within the borough.

Mr. DODSON: Suppose he has property in the borough, and does not reside in the borough?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said then he would have the advantage of voting by means of the voting paper. Then he was asked whether it was intended that a person who was an occupier of a £10 house, and who had also a freehold in the borough, should have only one vote? It was intended that he should have only one vote; and he thought that it would satisfy the voter's ambition. Then an hon. member inquired of him whether he could give him any calculation of the number of votes that would be added to the constituency by the different schemes which he had proposed to-night. It would be impossible for him to give an estimate. All he could say was that the increase no doubt would be considerable, exceeding half a million, but the suffrage would depend very much on the energy of individuals. It was totally impossible to give such an estimate as might be obtained if it depended on property or rating of which they might procure returns. The hon. member for Hull (Mr. Clay) asked whether the expense of the polling-places in boroughs would be defrayed by the locality? In most places a public room could be obtained without expense, and therefore he (Mr. Disraeli) did not propose that the candidate should be relieved from the charge. It was a legitimate expense; and if the hon. member had paid £400 for his polling-places in Hull the election officer of the district ought to have examined his accounts in a more careful manner (A laugh). The hon. member (Mr. Stewart) wished to know whether the £10 qualification in counties must arise from the possession of a house. In the bill it would be found that the qualification must consist of lands or tenements (Hear, hear). The hon. member for the borough (Mr. Locke) had denounced the bill on account of the innovation which he found in the proposal to restrict the borough freeholders to the locality in which their qualification lay; and this was a part of the discussion in which the usual course on such occasions as the present had been departed from. When Ministerial measures were brought forward hon. members generally restricted themselves to inquiries; but in the present instance the discussion had taken another turn. The moment it passed below the gangway the inquiries ceased, and hon. members began to express their opinions on the measure (A laugh). He did not object to that, but he was sure hon. members would allow him to discriminate. Below the gangway opinions had been given; above the gangway more modest inquiries had been made. An hon. gentleman (Mr. Crossley) complained that he had travelled 200 miles to hear his (Mr. Disraeli's) speech, and that he had been extremely disappointed at it. The hon. gentleman wished the Government to maintain their position until his friends were prepared to take their places. The hon. gentleman's great grievance seemed to be the want which his friends seemed to experience for leaders. After the discussion of that night the hon. gentleman could hardly complain of that want any longer. They had heard the speeches of the noble Lord the member for London, and the hon. gentlemen the members for Sheffield and Birmingham; and after the weighty and authoritative declarations of those members, the hon. gentleman who had travelled 200 miles that day would not much regret the great effort he had made (Loud laughter). The noble Lord (Lord J. Russell) said he could not hesitate one moment in expressing his opinion on this part of the bill; and he had stated, too, objections to it. The noble Lord had become acquainted with the contents of the measure before he (Mr. Disraeli) detailed it to the House; and he must have become acquainted with it through that corrupt influence to which the hon. member (Mr. Bright) had referred (Hear). All that he (Mr. Disraeli) could say with respect to that transaction was that he had witnessed that publication with dismay (Laughter and cheers). He should have thought the hon. gentleman would have acquitted him of any combination of that kind; for nothing more suicidal on his part could be conceived, seeing that he had had to make the statement that night which (he must say to his own astonishment) he had succeeded in making (Hear). The noble Lord's first objection to the measure was, that it would disfranchise freeholders in counties, a class who had exercised the right to vote for three hundred or four hundred years. But he was afraid that this franchise was of nothing like that duration. The franchise in question was of a much more modern date, and had been created in a much simpler and more manufacturing style—(Loud laughter and cheers)—than the territorial tradition which the noble Lord seemed to contemplate. The noble Lord said he never would consent to the proposal contained in the bill; and that he never would consent to disfranchise hard working men. Why, the noble Lord in his last bill actually proposed to disfranchise all the freemen in the country (Loud cheers). So much for this great and perilous innovation to which the noble Lord had alluded (Hear). As to the other great and perilous innovation—that of restricting borough freeholders to voting in localities in which their qualifications lay, it was part of the first Reform Bill (Cheers). It was advocated by Lord Althorp; and last year the member for Northamptonshire, on the motion of the hon. member for Surrey, had called the attention of the House to that very subject. Lord Althorp was quite in favour of borough freeholders voting only where their qualification was found (Hear, hear). The noble Lord (Lord J. Russell) said that he was in favour of mixing town and country, and that he knew nothing that was more to be deprecated than preventing people from towns voting in counties. He (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) was also in favour of blending interests, and he knew of nothing more advantageous than that people should come from the towns to vote in the counties. By all means let them vote in the counties if their qualification was in the counties (Cheers). But what happened in 1832? It was the successful carrying of the Chandos clause alone that made Lord Althorp say he would no longer insist on the borough freeholders being restricted to their boroughs (Hear, hear). It was solely in consequence of the £50 clause that Lord Althorp consented to omit what the noble Lord opposite now called a perilous innovation (Cheers). That innovation was projected by the political colleagues of the noble Lord opposite, and had been accepted by the good sense of the country some considerable time before (Hear, hear). It was clear that the moment the House came to consider the county franchise in the spirit in which he, on the part of the Government, had attempted to consider it—the moment they attempted to set aside its exclusive character, they must adopt the provision he suggested as the natural and logical consequence of the equality of the suffrage, and he felt that the proposal, so far from meeting the fate which had been predicted for it below the gangway, would be accepted by the good sense of the country (Cheers). Another hon. gentleman (Mr. W. J. Fox) complained that nothing was done in the bill for the working classes; and the member for Birmingham had confirmed that complaint, and had enforced it with all his vigorous expressions. Well, what he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) had done for the working classes might not sound so large as some plans which had been promulgated. There was, of course, nothing more easy than to make speeches in favour of the working classes, and to say that you would give them that power and this privilege; but, then, they (the party opposite) never did anything for the classes in question (Loud cheers). The working classes would, he had no doubt, be sensible of the benefit which the Government proposed to confer upon them in their bill, which he hoped and believed would pass (Hear, hear). That bill would open to them two avenues to the possession of political power—the savings-bank franchise and the 40s. freehold. The hon. gentleman arrogated to himself the peculiar privilege of alone being acquainted with the wants of the working classes—their wishes and requirements;

and said that he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) only conversed with the hon. gentleman behind him. But he knew more than the hon. gentleman gave him credit for (Cheers). He could tell the hon. member that he had as good means as he (the hon. gentleman) had of knowing what were the feelings of the working classes. There were two things which those classes had particularly impressed upon him. In the first place, they said that they knew nothing about the 40s. freehold; but that they perfectly understood a savings-bank franchise; and they added that they had not the least confidence in the hon. member for Birmingham (Laughter and cheers). They said that the hon. member had not satisfied them that his plan would be of any value to them; but they said they clearly understood the savings-bank franchise. They added, "We may want more, and we might devise other schemes, but this is a great boon, and it will be much appreciated by the working classes of this country" (Hear, hear). He (the right hon. gentleman) fully believed that statement (Cheers). It was not necessary that he should trespass upon the House at any greater length. An hon. gentleman (Mr. P. O'Brien) had asked what the Government intended to do for Ireland? Well, Ireland had very recently had a Reform Bill. It had already received a boon, which as yet had been denied to England or Scotland; and he understood that it had worked very much to the satisfaction of the Irish members. But the Government had no prejudices on the subject (a laugh); they were perfectly prepared to consider the case of Ireland; and, in fact, they had considered it (Hear, hear). In due season, when this bill had been read a second time, and a Scotch bill had been brought in, the hon. gentleman should have an Irish bill. It was a most remarkable thing about this debate that a Scotch member should have complained that the Government had treated his country in a cavalier manner. So far from that having been the case, they had taken special pains to guard the privileges of Scotland. He had shown that if the new principles were adopted Scotland would be disfranchised to an alarming extent (A laugh). He had shown that if the hon. member continued to give his support to the gentlemen with whom he generally sat, Scotland would have to lose a great number of her members, and that the surplus of representation so obtained would have to be given to the hon. gentleman the member for Lambeth, who had just spoken (Laughter).

There is one point yet remaining to which I must advert, and that is to fix the period when I shall ask the House to read this bill a second time (Hear, hear). Upon that subject I am in the hands of the House. I ought to observe that the Government desires to consult the feelings of the House. Had I followed my own inclinations, guided only by general considerations of public business, I should have asked the House to allow me to move the second reading on this day fortnight (Hear, hear). If the House will consent to that day I will fix it for that time, but I am bound to say that representations have been made to me by hon. members upon the other side which it would not be fair for me, after what has occurred, to treat with silence, that I should name this day three weeks (hear, hear), but I leave that point to the House to decide. The Government are prepared to fix this day fortnight. It must be either that or this day three weeks, for the Government measure of finance must be considered. (Cries of "Three weeks.") It is, then, the understanding that I shall move the second reading of this Bill upon this day three weeks (Hear, hear). I trust, Sir, that when that motion is made it will be successful (Cheers, and laughter).

The amendment was then withdrawn, and leave was given to bring in the bill.

The following "Picture of the House of Commons" and of Mr. Disraeli on Monday night, is drawn by a correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*:—"The scene was memorable and exciting. The attendance at prayers was wonderfully large, since hon. members thereby obtained the opportunity of putting their cards at the back of their seats, and securing their places for the night. The body of the house was most inconveniently crowded, and members then betook themselves to the galleries, which were also densely filled. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge occupied a seat under the clock; and in the places reserved for Peers were Earl Grey, Earl Granville, the Bishop of Oxford, the Earl of Hardwicke, Lord Colville of Culross, Lord Montagu, and Viscount Eversley (the late Speaker). The white hairs and reverend form and figure of Mr. Dallas were observed in the Diplomats' Gallery; and the Prussian and Sardinian Ministers, and other representatives of Foreign Powers, testified by their attendance the influence which our home politics exercise upon Continental affairs. It is twenty minutes past four, and members are all in their places awaiting the arrival of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. . . . It is half-past four, and slowly entering the House is seen the Chancellor of the Exchequer, carrying a red despatch-box. He does not walk up the floor as if he expected a cheer, and he does not get one. The buzz of conversation is suspended for a moment until it is seen that the Treasury benches do not mean to 'give tongue,' and then it is renewed. . . . The questions and notices of motion are soon over, although one of them looks ominous as when men descry the path of a shell through the air. Mr. Kinglake (Eothen) gives notice of a motion on the subject of the *Charles d'Angoulême*; and members, while they cheer, look at one another as if to inquire whether Ministers, after all, might not be put out of office upon some other question than that of Parliamentary reform. The orders of the day are postponed until after the motion on the representation of the people. The overture has been played, the bell is rung, and now the curtain rises. . . . The orator is pale, but perfectly self-possessed. His voice at first is low, calm, and unimpassioned. More than any other speaker Mr. Disraeli studies those modulations of the voice that give relief and pleasure to the auditory nerve, and thus it is that the audience listen to him, from twenty minutes to five o'clock until five minutes to eight, without any other sensation of weariness than is inevitable from disclosures forestalled and a want of condensation in the language employed. The cheers are few and far between. The tone of the speech is pitched low. The speaker is never exultant or defiant. He cannot reckon upon the enthusiasm of his own side, and will be satisfied if he can avoid the derisive interruptions of the other. Between the Scylla of Tory murmurs and the Charybdis of Radical derision the Chancellor of the Exchequer steers his bark with great dexterity. Now he wins cheers from the Liberals—anon he has a *bon-bon* for the Conservatives. He gets the most fun out of the fifteen condemned seats. He is artfully coy. To name them might be painful to some honourable members. The House laughs, and members cry 'Name, name;' the Chancellor yields to the will of the House, with pretended reluctance, and unfolds the death warrant. . . . The peroration is of the shortest, not consisting of more than three or four sentences; and when Mr. Disraeli sits down he obtains a general cheer from all sides, in acknowledgment of his ability and his modest bearing. . . . There is a rush of members from the House. Leaders and followers tumble over each other in their eagerness to get a table for dinner and to escape from Mr. Baxter. The small fry use their opportunity, and for an hour or two it seems as if no one is to express a positive opinion on the bill. What are the tribunes of the people about? Mr. Bright is seen looking over his notes, as if marshalling his ideas. Mr. Locke, M.P. for Southwark, opens the ball, and the now venerable figure of Mr. W. J. Fox rises to weigh the bill in the balance of working-class aspirations, and to declare that it will be found wanting. But previous denunciations of the bill are feeble and weak compared with that of Lord John Russell. 'Johnny is bidding for popularity among the working classes!' whispered the Tories. 'Behold our natural leader!' cried the more advanced Liberals. Many times did the noble Lord insist that the bill fell short of the just expectations of the 'working classes.' . . . Mr. Roebuck next denounces the bill, and he is followed by Mr. Bright. The tribunes of the people are speaking out now. The hon. member for Birmingham speaks slowly, and with the effort of one who has been advised to master all unnecessary agitation. He, too, decries the bill, and declares his intention of bringing in his own measure at an early day. All eyes are turned to Lord Palmerston, but the oracle is mute. He will express no opinion on the measure, yet reserves for himself the amplest liberty to condemn. The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied without acerbity to the criticisms upon his bill. The second reading was fixed for Monday, the 21st of March, and members went home saying to each other, 'The Ministry will be beaten upon the second reading, and we shall have a general election soon after Easter.'"

THE NEW REFORM BILL.

We are enabled to present our readers with a copy of this important measure. It is entitled "A Bill to Amend the Laws relating to the Representation of the People in England and Wales, and to facilitate the Registration and Voting of Electors," and proceeds as follows:—

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the laws affecting the representation of the people in England and Wales, and to afford increased facilities for the registration and voting of her Majesty's subjects entitled to vote in the election of members to serve in Parliament; be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

I. Every male person of full age, and not subject to any legal incapacity, who shall have any one of the several qualifications hereinafter specified, shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, and vote in the election of a member or members for the county, or, if within the limits of a borough, then in the election of a member or members for the borough where, in the case of qualifications arising out of lands or tenements, such lands or tenements shall be situate, and where in other cases such person shall reside. The qualifications above referred to are as follow:—1. Who shall be beneficially entitled, as owner or as mortgagee in possession, at law or in equity, to an estate of inheritance in lands or tenements of freehold tenure, of the clear yearly value, over and above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, of not less than forty shillings:—2. Or shall be so beneficially entitled to an estate of inheritance in lands or tenements of copyhold, or any other tenure whatever, except freehold, of such clear yearly value, as aforesaid, of not less than five pounds:—3. Or shall be so beneficially entitled to an estate for any life or lives in lands or tenements, of any tenure, of such clear yearly value, as aforesaid, of not less than five pounds:—4. Or shall be so beneficially entitled to a term originally granted for not less than thirty years in lands or tenements, of any tenure, of such clear yearly value, as aforesaid, of not less than five pounds:—5. Or shall occupy as tenant any such lands or tenements of the clear yearly value of not less than ten pounds:—6. Or shall occupy any apartments in, or portion of a house, whether furnished or unfurnished, for which he shall have paid a rent of not less than eight shillings per week, or per annum to an amount of twenty pounds:—7. Or shall be in the beneficial enjoyment of a yearly income arising from the personal property following, that is to say: From any annuity granted by the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt or any dividends or interest from the Parliamentary stocks or funds of the United Kingdom, or from the stocks, shares, or bonds of the East India Company, or of the Bank of England, standing in his own name, of not less amount per annum than ten pounds:—8. Or shall be in the beneficial enjoyment of an income arising from any pension, pay, or superannuation allowance, in respect of any past employment by such person in any department of her Majesty's naval, military, East Indian, or civil service, and who shall no longer be permanently employed therein, amounting to not less per annum than two hundred pounds:—9. Or shall hold, and shall be beneficially entitled to, a deposit in some savings-bank, established in England or Wales under the provisions of the Act of the ninth year of his late Majesty King George the Fourth, chapter ninety-two, to the amount of sixty pounds: 10. Or shall possess one or other of the qualifications following, that is to say:—Who shall be a graduate of any University of the United Kingdom; or an ordained priest or deacon of the Church of England; or a minister of any other religious denomination appointed, either alone or with not more than one colleague, to the charge of any chapel or place of worship, and officiating as the minister thereof; or a barrister-at-law, or serjeant-at-law, in any of the Inns of Court in England, or a certificated pleader or conveyancer; or a certificated attorney, or solicitor, or proctor in England and Wales; or a member of the medical profession, registered under the provisions of "The Medical Act," 1858; or a schoolmaster holding a certificate from the Committee of her Majesty's Council on Education:—11. Or who shall be entitled to be registered for any county, city, or borough, in respect of any estate for life in freehold lands or tenements, of which he shall be seised at the time of the passing of this Act, or in respect of any qualification, as freeholder, burgage tenant, burgess, freeman, liveryman, or otherwise, reserved or defined in the thirty-first, thirty-second, thirty-third, thirty-fourth, and thirty-fifth sections of the Act of the second year of the reign of his late Majesty King William the Fourth, chapter forty-five.

II. No person shall be entitled to vote, as aforesaid, unless he shall have been duly registered according to the provisions hereinafter contained; and no person shall be so registered in any year in respect of his estate or interest in any lands or tenements, either of inheritance, or for any life or lives, or for a term of years, as aforesaid, unless he shall have been in the actual possession thereof, or in the receipt of the rents and profits thereof, for his own use, for six calendar months at least next previous to the twenty-fourth day of June in such year: provided always, that where any such qualification shall come to any person at any time within such period of six calendar months, by descent, succession, marriage, marriage settlement, devise, or promotion to any benefice in a church, or by promotion to any office, such person shall be entitled, in respect thereof, to have his name inserted in the list of voters then next to be made, by virtue of this Act as hereinafter mentioned; and no person shall be so registered in any year in respect of any lands or tenements occupied by him as tenant, or in respect of any apartments or portion of a house occupied by him as aforesaid, unless he shall have been in the actual occupation thereof for twelve calendar months next previous to the twenty-fourth day of June in such year; and no person shall be so registered in respect of any annuity or income, as aforesaid, or in respect of a deposit in any savings-bank, as aforesaid, unless he shall have been in the receipt of such annuity or income, or have had such deposit standing in his name for twelve calendar months next previous to the twenty-fourth day of June in such year; and no person shall be so registered in respect of any such annuity, income, or deposit, or in respect of any educational qualification as aforesaid, unless he shall have resided within the county or borough in respect of which he claims to be so registered for twelve calendar months next previous to the twenty-fourth day of June in such year: provided always that no person having two or more places of residence shall be entitled to be registered as a voter at more than one place in respect of the same qualification.

III. No person shall be so registered in any year, in respect of his occupation of any lands or tenements situate in a parish or township in which there shall be a rate for the relief of the poor as occupier, unless he shall have been rated, in respect of such premises, to all rates for the relief of the poor made during the time of his occupation, so required as aforesaid, and shall have paid on or before the twenty-fourth day of June in such year all the poor-rates which shall have become payable in respect of such lands or tenements previously to the twenty-fifth day of December then next preceding.

IV. Every person occupying any lands or tenements in any county or borough shall have the same right to claim to be rated to the relief of the poor as is given by the thirtieth section of the said Act passed in the second year of the reign of his late Majesty King William the Fourth, and the provisions of the Act passed in the fifteenth year of her Majesty, chapter 14, shall be applicable to all persons so claiming, except that the twenty-fifth day of December and the twenty-fourth day of June shall be the periods fixed in lieu of the fifth day of January and the twentieth day of July respectively.

V. The lands or tenements in respect of the ownership or occupation of which any person shall be entitled to be registered in any year shall not be required to be the same premises, but may be different premises, owned or occupied in immediate succession by such person during the six calendar months, or twelve calendar months, as the case may be, next previous to the twenty-fourth day of June in such year.

VI. Where any such premises shall be jointly owned or occupied by more persons than one, each of such joint owners or occupiers shall be entitled to be so registered, in case the clear yearly value thereof, as aforesaid, shall be sufficient, when divided by the number of such owners or occupiers, to give to each of such joint owners or occupiers, as the case may be, a sum of not less than the amount before specified, as constituting a qualification vote, in the case of such owner and occupier respectively, but

not otherwise; provided always that no greater number of persons shall be entitled to be registered in respect of any freehold, copyhold, or leasehold interest in the same premises than shall be equal to two voters for every single tenement or undivided plot of land, unless they shall have derived the same by descent, succession, marriage, marriage settlement, devise, or promotion as aforesaid, or unless they shall be *bond fide* engaged as partners carrying on trade or business thereon.

VII. All such enactments now in force as require the payment by any person of assessed taxes in order to entitle such person to have his name inserted in respect of the occupation of any premises in any list of persons entitled to vote for any borough, and so much of any enactments now in force as require assessors or collectors of taxes to deliver to overseers lists of persons who have not paid the assessed taxes payable in respect of any premises, are hereby repealed.

VIII. In order to entitle any person to be placed on any register of voters, in respect of his occupation of apartments in or the portion of any house, such person shall, on or before the twenty-fourth day of July in each year, send to the overseers of the parish or township in which such house shall be situate a claim, according to the form numbered 5 in the Schedule B to this Act annexed, with the declaration therein contained, and signed and witnessed as therein required.

IX. The Governor and Company of the Bank of England, the Governor and Company of the Bank of Ireland, the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, and the East India Company, upon the request of any person who, at the time of making such request, shall, for the twelve months next preceding the twenty-fourth day of June in any year, have received or have been entitled to receive any annuity, or any dividends, or interest to the amount of ten pounds in respect of stock, shares, or bonds, standing in the name of such person in the books of such commissioners or company respectively, shall cause to be given to such person a certificate in the form numbered 1 in the Schedule A to this Act. And the trustees or managers of any savings-bank in England and Wales, upon the request of any person who shall have in such savings-bank a sum of not less than sixty pounds, and which he shall have had deposited in such bank for the twelve months next preceding the twenty-fourth day of June in any year, shall cause to be given to such person a certificate in the form numbered 2, in the said Schedule A to this Act. And every such certificate shall have a distinguishing number affixed thereto, and shall on all occasions touching the right or title of such person to be registered be received as *prima facie* evidence of the facts therein mentioned, without proof of the signature, or of the official character of the person appearing to have signed the same.

X. In order to entitle any person to be registered in respect of his yearly income derived from such personal property as aforesaid, or in respect of his being a depositor in any savings-bank, such person shall, on or before the twenty-fourth day of July, send in a claim, with the certificate before-mentioned annexed, to the overseers of the parish in which he shall reside, in the form numbered 6 in the Schedule B to this Act, with the declaration therein contained; and the overseer of the parish shall, on or immediately after the twenty-fourth day of June in every subsequent year, so long as the person so registered shall continue on the register, send to the Commissioners, company, or savings-bank giving such certificate, addressed to the secretary, a circular in the form numbered 3 in the said Schedule B, and shall omit the name of such person from the list of voters for the current year unless it shall appear from the answer received to such circular that the person so registered continues to be possessed of such qualification: provided always, that any person who shall continue to be possessed of the same qualification for which his name appears on the register then in force, and who shall have been so omitted by the overseers from the list of voters in any year, shall be entitled to claim to be inserted in the supplemental list of voters in manner hereinafter mentioned.

XI. The circulars to be sent by the overseers as aforesaid shall be transmitted through the post; and the commissioners, or company, or the trustees of the savings bank, respectively, receiving any such circular shall forthwith authorise some officer or clerk, on their behalf, to return such circular to the overseers by the post, with an answer thereto, in the form numbered 4 in the Schedule B to this Act.

XII. The overseers shall keep such certificates annexed to the said claims, and also such annual circulars, with the answers thereto, and allow the same to be perused by any person without payment of any fee, and give copies of the same in the like manner as hereinafter provided with regard to lists of voters and persons objected to; and the said overseers shall produce the said certificates annexed to the original claims, and also such annual circulars and replies, to the barrister appointed to revise the lists for any county or borough at the same time as they are by law required to deliver the original claims and notices of objection; and the revising barrister shall return all such certificates and annual circulars, with the answers thereto, to the overseers, who shall forthwith file the same, and keep all such certificates and circulars in some secure place, and shall at the conclusion of their year of office deliver the same to their successors in the said office of overseers, who shall in like manner preserve and hand over the same to their successors.

XIII. In order to entitle any person to be registered in respect of an income arising from any pension, pay, or superannuation allowance, as aforesaid, or in respect of any one of the educational qualifications herebefore mentioned, such person shall, on or before the twenty-fourth day of July, send to the overseers of the parish within which he shall reside a claim, according to the form numbered 7 in the Schedule B to this Act annexed.

XIV. If any person shall wilfully give or make any such certificate, or answer to such circular, as herebefore mentioned, falsely, or without due authority, or forge, counterfeit, or alter any such certificate or answer, or any signature thereto, or shall make use of the same in support of any claim to vote, or tender the same in evidence, knowing the same to be false or counterfeit, or given without due authority, or shall wilfully declare falsely in any claim sent in by him under the provisions of this Act, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and, on being convicted thereof, shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, together with hard labour.

XV. No person employed in any Government arsenal, dockyard, yard, or factory connected with her Majesty's army or navy shall be capable of giving his vote at any election for the county, city, or borough within which such arsenal, dockyard, yard, or factory shall be situate during the time that he shall be so employed, and for one month after he shall have quitted such employment; and the vote of such person, if given, shall be utterly void and of none effect, notwithstanding that the name of such person shall have been inserted in the register in force at the time of such election; and any person being so disqualified as aforesaid who shall vote at any such election shall forfeit the sum of twenty pounds to be recoverable by any person who shall sue for the same in any action in any of her Majesty's courts of record at Westminster.

XVI. For the purpose of forming registers of all persons entitled to vote at any election, in accordance with the provisions of this Act, the clerk of the peace for every county and the town-clerk of every borough shall cause a sufficient number of forms of precepts, notices, claims, lists, and circulars to be printed, according to the respective forms numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and of the table of fees in the Schedule B to this Act; and shall also, on or before the twenty-fourth day of May in every year, make and cause to be delivered to the overseers of the poor of every parish within his county, or within his borough, as the case may be, his precept, according to the form numbered 1 in the said Schedule B to this Act, together with a sufficient number of the said printed forms of notices, claims, lists, and circulars, and of the copies of such part of the qualification register of voters then in force for such county or borough as shall relate to such parish, and of copies of the said table of fees for the purposes hereinafter mentioned.

XVII. The overseers of the poor in every parish shall, on or before the first day of June in every year, publish a notice, according to the form numbered 2 in the said Schedule B to this Act, having first signed the same, stating that no person will be entitled to have his name inserted in the list of voters for such parish then next to be made in respect of the occupation of any lands or tenements of the clear yearly value of not less than ten pounds situate wholly or in part within such parish, unless he shall pay, on or before the twenty-fourth day of June, then next ensuing, all the poor-rates which shall have become payable from him in respect of such premises previously to the twenty-fifth day of December then last past; and requiring all persons entitled to vote at such election in respect of the occupation of apartments, or the portion of any house within such parish; and all persons resident within such parish, and entitled to vote in respect of an income derived from personal property, or from pension, pay, or superannuation allowance, or as depositors in a savings-bank; and all persons resident within such parish or township having any one of the educational qualifications entitling them under this Act to vote in respect thereof; and also all other persons entitled to be registered who, though not herein required to send in a claim, may think fit so to do, and who are desirous of having their names inserted in the register about to be made, to give or send to the said overseers, on or before the twenty-fourth day of July then next ensuing, a claim to vote, as aforesaid; and every such person shall, on or before the said twenty-fourth day of July, deliver or send to the said overseers a claim, according to the form applicable to his particular qualification, and as set forth in that behalf in the Schedule B to this Act.

XVIII. The overseers shall, on or before the twenty-fourth day of July in every year, make out, according to the form numbered 9 in the said Schedule B, an alphabetical list of all persons other than freemen who, on or before the twenty-fourth day of June then next preceding, shall appear to be on the said copy of the qualification register of voters then in force for such county or borough, omitting all names against which the letter A shall have been printed in such register, according to the provisions hereinafter contained, or who shall, without being on the said register and without making any claim, be entitled to be registered in respect of any one of the

several qualifications herebefore specified, arising out of lands or tenements, or who shall in due form, as herein prescribed, have claimed in respect of any one of the several qualifications herebefore specified, for which a claim is required; and such list shall be called "The List of Voters," and in every such list the Christian name and surname of every such person, with his profession, trade, or calling, and the place of his abode, the nature of his qualification, and the local or other description of the property, and the name of the occupying tenant of any property so occupied, shall be written, and in the case of claimants the particulars of the qualification shall be set forth as the same are stated in the claim; and the said overseers, if they shall have reasonable cause to believe that any person whose name shall appear in such list of voters is not entitled to have his name upon the register then next to be made, shall add the word "objected" before the name of every such person on the margin of such list of voters; and the said overseers shall also add the word "dead" before the name of any person in the said list whom they shall have reasonable cause to believe to be dead; and the overseers shall cause a sufficient number of copies of such list of voters, with all such marginal additions, as aforesaid, to be printed, and in such list all the names which have not been taken from the copy of the register then in force, as aforesaid, shall be printed in italics, and they shall, on or before the first day of August, sign and publish the same; and the said overseers shall likewise keep a copy of such list of voters, with the marginal additions respectively, as aforesaid, signed by them, to be perused by any person, without payment of any fee, at any time between the hours of ten of the clock in the forenoon and four of the clock in the afternoon of any day, except Sunday, during the first fourteen days after the same shall have been published, and shall deliver written or printed copies thereof, signed by them, to all persons applying for the same, on payment of a price for each copy, after the rate contained in the table of fees in the Schedule B to this Act; provided always, that it shall be lawful for any person entitled to be registered in respect of his estate or interest in lands or tenements to send to the overseers of the parish where such lands or tenements shall be situate, on or before the twenty-fourth day of July, a claim according to the form numbered 8 in the Schedule B to this Act, or to the like effect, if he shall so think fit.

XIX. The town-clerk of every borough shall, on or before the first day of August in each year, make out, according to the form numbered 15 in the said Schedule B, an alphabetical list of all the freemen of such borough who may be entitled under the provisions herebefore contained to vote in the election of a member or members to serve in Parliament for such borough, to be called "The List of Voters entitled as Freemen," together with the respective places of their abode, and shall sign such list, and cause copies thereof to be printed, and shall publish the said list on or before the first day of August in such year, and shall likewise keep a copy thereof to be perused by any person, without payment of any fee, at any time between the hours of ten of the clock in the forenoon, and four of the clock in the afternoon of any day, except Sunday, during the first fourteen days after such lists shall have been published, and shall deliver copies thereof to all persons applying for the same, on payment of a price for each copy, after the rate contained in the table of fees in the Schedule to this Act.

XX. Nothing herein contained shall alter or affect the mode of preparing and publishing the lists of such of the freemen of the city of London as are liverymen of the several companies entitled to vote in the election of members to serve in Parliament for the city of London.

XXI. Every person not by this Act specially required to claim to be registered as aforesaid, whose name shall have been omitted in any such list of voters so to be made out as aforesaid, and who shall be entitled to have his name inserted therein, and every person desirous of being registered for a different qualification than that for which his name appears in the said list, or of correcting any error as to name, place of abode, or description of his qualification in such list, shall, on or before the twenty-fourth day of August in that year, give a notice according to the form numbered 8 in the said Schedule B, or to the like effect, to the overseers of that parish in the list whereof he shall claim to have his name inserted, or if he shall claim as a freeman of any borough, then he shall in like manner give to the town-clerk of such borough a notice, according to the form numbered 14 in the said Schedule B, or to the like effect; and the overseers and town-clerks respectively shall include the names of all persons so claiming as aforesaid in lists to be called "The Supplemental List of Voters," according to the forms numbered 10 and 18 respectively in the said Schedule B: provided always, that every person so omitted and appearing upon the supplemental list of voters shall be required to prove his right to vote, or the fact required to be corrected, at the court to be held by the revising barrister, or his claim shall be disallowed; and such revising barrister, where any such claim is made for the purpose of correcting an error or misdescription in the said list of voters, shall, upon due proof being furnished to his satisfaction, correct the same accordingly.

XXII. Any original or supplemental claim made in respect of the ownership or occupation of any lands or tenements may be signed by any other person on behalf of the claimant: provided that the person so signing on behalf of another shall add his own name and place of abode, and shall be liable to the payment of costs, as hereinafter provided in the case of claimants, in the event of such claim being decided by the revising barrister to be frivolous.

XXIII. Every person whose name shall have been inserted in any list of voters for a county or borough may object to any other person upon any list of voters for such county or borough as not having been entitled on the twenty-fourth day of June then next preceding to have his name inserted in any list of voters for such county or borough, and every person so objecting shall, on or before the twenty-fourth day of August in such year, give or send by post to the overseers of the parish, or the town-clerk of the borough to which the list of voters containing the name of the person so objected to may relate, as the case may be, a notice, according to the form numbered 11 or 16 in the said Schedule B, or to the like effect, and the person, as well as overseers as others, so objecting, in the manner herebefore mentioned, shall, on or before the twenty-fourth day of August, give to the party so objected to, or send to him by post, at his place of abode, as described in such list, a notice, according to the form numbered 14 in the said Schedule B, or to the like effect; and every such notice of objection shall be signed by the party or overseer, as the case may be, so objecting; and whenever the place of abode of the person objected to, as described in the said list, shall not be in the parish to which such list may relate, and the name of the occupying tenant of the whole or any part of the qualifying property, together with his place of abode, shall appear in such list, the person so objecting shall also, on or before the same day, give or send by post to any such occupying tenant, at his place of abode, a duplicate notice, signed as aforesaid.

XXIV. Every person, as well as overseers as others, objecting in the manner herebefore provided to the name of any other person shall specify, in the notice of objection to be sent by him, the grounds of objection upon which he intends to rely, whether it be that he has not a qualification entitling him to be registered, or that his qualification or place of abode is not accurately described, and upon the revision of the lists before the revising barrister the person so objected to shall not be required to give any evidence in support of his right to be registered, except in so far as the same shall have been disputed in such grounds of objection, and it shall not be competent for the overseer, or party objecting, to give any evidence in support of any other objection.

XXV. The overseers shall include the names of all persons so objected to in a list, according to the form numbered 13 in the said Schedule B, and the town-clerk shall include the names of all persons so objected to as freemen in a list, according to the form numbered 17 in the said Schedule B; and the said overseers and town-clerk, respectively, shall sign the same, and shall publish such lists, and also the said lists of supplemental claims, on or before the first day of September, and shall also keep copies of the said lists, and shall allow the same, and also the notices of objection which they shall have received, to be perused by any person, without payment of any fee, at any time between the hours of ten of the clock in the forenoon and four of the clock in the afternoon of any day, except Sunday, during the first fourteen days of the said month of September, and shall deliver a copy of such lists to any person requiring the same, on payment of a price for each copy, after the rate contained in the said table of fees.

XXVI. On or before the first day of September in every year the overseer of every parish shall deliver to the clerk of the peace of the county, or to the town clerk of the borough wherein such parish is situate, the said list of voters, with the marginal additions thereto, as aforesaid, and also the said list of supplemental claims, and also the list of objections respectively signed, as aforesaid, relating to their parish.

XXVII. It shall be lawful for any person whose name shall be on any list of voters for the time being for any county or borough, and for any person who shall have claimed to have his name inserted in any such list, upon request made by such person, at any time between the twenty-fourth day of July and the twenty-fourth day of August, to inspect and make extracts from the rate-books, in the manner and between the hours provided in the sixteenth section of the Act of the sixth year of her Majesty, chapter eighteen.

XXVIII. At every court to be held by any revising barrister for the revision of any list of voters, all witnesses examined before him shall be examined upon oath, and it shall be lawful for such barrister, at his discretion, to receive in evidence affidavits, solemn affirmations, or declarations made before any justice of the peace, or other person authorised to administer oaths in any of her Majesty's courts of law or equity, in support of any right to be registered, or objection thereto, or negating the grounds alleged in any notice of objection to any person on such lists; and every person who shall wilfully swear, affirm, or declare falsely in any affidavit, affirmation, or declaration to be so used, or when examined on oath before any revising barrister at any court holden as aforesaid, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and subject to the penalties of perjury.

XXIX. And whereas it is provided in the fortieth section of the said Act, passed in the sixth year of her Majesty, that no evidence shall be given of any other qualification than that which is described in the list of voters or claims, and that the barrister shall not be at liberty to change the description of the qualification as it appears in the list, except for the pur-

pose of more clearly and accurately defining the same: be it enacted that it shall be lawful for such barrister to change the description of the qualification, and to amend the same, and to receive evidence in support thereof, whenever he shall be satisfied that the person whose right is in question is entitled to be registered for such altered or amended qualification, and that the misdescription or error was not made with the intention to mislead any person as to the right of such person to be registered.

XXX. The revising barrister shall write before the names of all such persons inserted on the list of voters as are required to renew their claims annually, the letter A, and in printing the register in the manner herein-after provided, such letter A shall be placed before the name of such person in the register, and the names of all such persons shall be omitted in the ensuing year from the list of voters to be made by the overseers as aforesaid unless they shall have duly sent in their claims in the manner hereinbefore provided.

XXXI. Every clerk of the peace for a county, and every town clerk for any borough, shall, upon the request of any person objected to, or objector to any other person, or their respective agents, issue a summons according to the form in the Schedule B to this Act, requiring the attendance of any witness to be named in such summons to attend and be examined before such revising barrister, and every such summons shall be served personally upon the witness whose attendance is required; and if any person so summoned as a witness shall, after a tender of reasonable compensation for his time and expenses, neglect or refuse to appear before such barrister at the time and place for that purpose appointed, without a reasonable excuse for such neglect or refusal to be allowed by such barrister, or if any person so summoned shall appear but refuse to be examined or give evidence before such barrister, every person so offending shall forfeit any sum not exceeding £5, to be fixed by order under the hand of such barrister, and to be recovered in the manner provided in the seventy-first section of the said Act of the sixth year of the reign of her Majesty.

XXXII. In order to discourage frivolous and vexatious claims and objections, be it enacted, that the power of the revising barrister to give costs under the forty-sixth section of the said Act of the sixth year of the reign of her Majesty shall be enlarged, so as to enable such barristers to give costs to the extent of £5 in the cases therein provided.

XXXIII. Any person objected to, and also any person objector to any other person, as aforesaid, may send to the overseers, or other person objector, or to the person objected to, as the case may be, not less than one week before the time appointed for the revision of the lists by the revising barrister, a notice, stating that such person objected to, or objector to any other person, does not intend to support his right to be registered, or his objection, as the case may be; and in such case no claim for costs shall arise.

XXXIV. The lists of voters for each county, signed by the revising barrister shall be forthwith transmitted by him to the clerk of the peace of the county, and the clerk of the peace shall keep the said lists among the records of the sessions, and shall forthwith cause the said lists to be copied and printed in a book, to be called "The Qualification Register," arranged with the names in each parish in strict alphabetical order, according to the surnames, and with every polling-place or district in strict alphabetical order, and with every parish within such polling-district, likewise in the same order, and with a number prefixed to the name of each person in regular succession. And, in order to enable voters to vote with less trouble and expense, the clerk of the peace, in addition to such qualification register, shall also make out and print in the said book another register, to be called "The Voting Register," wherein every polling-district and every parish in each polling-district shall be arranged in strict alphabetical order; and wherein in each parish shall also be arranged in strict alphabetical order the name of every voter residing in such parish, with his place of abode, as described in the said lists; and before the name of each voter shall be placed the same number as is affixed thereto in the qualification register; and the names of all such voters as shall reside out of such county shall be arranged together in the said voting register in strict alphabetical order, to be headed "The List of Out-Voters or Non-Residents;" and every such qualification register and voting register shall be printed in the forms numbered 1 and 2 in the Schedule C to this Act, and shall be arranged in such manner and form that the list of voters residing in each separate parish or township, and also the list of out-voters or non-residents, may be conveniently and completely cut out or detached from all the other lists of voters contained in the same book, so that all the lists for every or for any polling place or district, or the list of every or any single parish, may be ready for the purposes of this Act or for sale; and the said clerk of the peace shall sign and deliver the said voting register, with the qualification register, on or before the thirty-first day of December in the then current year, to the returning officer of the county, to be by him and his successors safely kept for the purposes in the said recited Act of the sixth year of her Majesty and this Act mentioned.

XXXV. The lists of voters for each borough, signed by the revising barrister, shall be forthwith delivered to the town clerk of the borough, who shall forthwith cause a qualification register and a voting register to be made out and printed from such lists, in the manner and according to the directions hereinbefore provided, with regard to the county lists of voters, so far as the same are applicable, save that, instead of the parishes, the streets or wards of such borough shall be arranged therein in strict alphabetical order, and the name of each voter residing in each such street or ward, with his place of abode, shall be so arranged, and the said town clerk shall sign and deliver the said qualification register and voting register, on or before the thirty-first day of December, to the returning officer of the borough, to be by him and his successors safely kept for the purposes in the said recited Act of the sixth year of her Majesty and this Act mentioned.

XXXVI. The said printed books containing the qualification register and voting register, so signed and delivered as aforesaid, shall be the register of persons entitled to vote at any election of a member or members to serve in Parliament which shall take place for such county or borough during the year commencing on the first day of January then next, and ending on the thirty-first day of December; and every such clerk of the peace and town-clerk shall keep printed copies of their respective registers, and shall deliver copies of such registers, or of any part thereof, to any person applying for the same, after the rate contained in the table of fees in the Schedule B to this Act: provided always, that no person shall be entitled to a copy of any part of any register relating to any parish without paying for the whole that relates to such parish.

XXXVII. Every voter inserted in such voting register as residing within the county or borough shall vote at the polling-place appointed for the parish in which he shall be registered as residing, and not elsewhere; and every voter inserted in such voting register as an out-voter or non-resident may vote at any polling-place for such county or borough, provided that every such out-voter upon tendering his vote at an election shall be asked by the returning officer or his deputy whether he has voted before in person or by voting paper at such election; and any person making an untrue answer to such question, or who shall, without being asked such question, vote a second time at such election, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and on being convicted thereof shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, together with hard labour.

XXXVIII. The justices of the peace assembled at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions to be holden next after the passing of this Act shall appoint proper and convenient places for polling in every county, so that there may be a polling-place in every parish or township in which there shall not be less than 200 resident electors, and a polling-place for every two or more parishes or townships in either of which separately there shall be less than 200 resident electors, at some central or convenient point at which, as nearly as possible, 200 voters from such smaller parishes or townships may most conveniently attend to record their votes; and the places so selected by the justices as the future polling-places of the county shall forthwith be duly advertised as they shall think fit; and the justices shall from time to time vary and alter such polling-places as they shall think expedient, provided that it shall not be incumbent upon the revising barrister appointed to revise such lists as aforesaid to attend at any polling-places at which less than 500 voters shall be appointed to poll.

XXXIX. At every contested election for any county, unless some building or place belonging to the county shall be provided by the justices for that purpose, the sheriff shall, whenever it is practicable so to do, instead of erecting a booth, hire a building or room for the purpose of taking the poll at the places so appointed by the justices as aforesaid, and the expense incurred by the said sheriff in the hire of rooms or erecting booths for polling shall be paid to him by the justices for such county out of the county rate.

XL. And whereas it is expedient that an appeal from the decision of any revising barrister, contemplated by the 42nd section of the said Act of the sixth year of her Majesty, should be granted in all cases in which the same is demanded, be it enacted that the revising barrister shall in all cases, upon notice being given to him as provided in the said recited Act, state in writing the facts which, according to his judgment, shall have been established by the evidence of the case, and which shall be material to the matter in question; and shall also state in writing his decision upon the whole case, and also his decision upon the point of law in question appealed against; and such appeal shall be stated and dealt with in the manner provided in the said recited Act passed in the sixth year of her Majesty.

XLI. The 79th section of the said Act, passed in the sixth year of her Majesty, is hereby repealed; and, instead thereof, be it enacted that at any future election of a member or members to serve in Parliament for any county or borough, the register of voters so made as aforesaid shall be deemed and taken to be conclusive evidence that the persons therein named continue to have the qualifications which are annexed to their names respectively in the register in force at such election.

XLII. And whereas it is expedient to afford greater facilities for voting to persons who, at the time of holding any election, shall be absent from or living beyond the limits of the county or borough in respect of which they are registered, or who shall desire to be relieved from attending in person to vote at such election, be it enacted that any voter may, after the issuing of the writ for holding such election, apply in writing, either by himself or by some person on his behalf, to the returning officer for a voting-paper, and in such application shall be stated the number attached to his name in the

register, the particulars of his qualification as therein described, according to the form No. 1 in the Schedule D to this Act, or to the like effect, and the returning officer shall forthwith, upon the receipt of such request, fill up and transmit to the voter, by a prepaid registered letter through the post, directed to him at the address indicated in the request, a voting-paper, in the form and according to the directions given in the forms numbered 2 and 3 to the Schedule D to this Act annexed.

XLIII. Every voter receiving such voting-paper shall fill in his own name, and also the name or names of the candidate or candidates at such election for whom he intends to vote, and shall sign the same in the presence of two witnesses, one of whom must be a householder, and such witnesses shall, in addition to signing their names, state their profession, trade, or calling, and their place of abode.

XLIV. The voting-paper, so signed and witnessed as aforesaid, shall be returned by the voter signing the same through the post as prepaid registered letter, directed to the returning officer from whom the same shall have been received at the address given by him in such voting-paper.

XLV. The returning officer shall appoint a deputy to receive all such voting-papers at the place to which they shall be so directed, and he shall give notice to each candidate of the name of such deputy, and of the place where such deputy will, on the day of polling, open such voting-papers, in order that the said candidates or their agents may attend the said deputy thereat; and such deputy shall, between the hours of eight o'clock in the morning and four o'clock in the afternoon of such day, and in the presence of the candidates or their agents, if they shall think fit to attend, open the said papers, and read out from each of them the votes given for the several candidates at such election, and shall duly record such votes in a poll-book, as the same are given for such candidates in such voting-papers; and in adding up the poll the votes so given shall be reckoned in favour of the respective candidates, together with the votes given in person at such election; but no voting-paper shall be opened which shall not have been delivered at the place to which they shall be so directed, as aforesaid, before the close of the poll.

XLVI. It shall not be lawful for the returning officer to reject any voting-paper which he shall have received through the post, and which shall have so arrived before the closing of the poll, on the account of any informality in filling up the same, provided that such paper shall purport to contain the surname of the candidate or candidates for whom the vote is intended to be given, and to have been signed in the presence of two witnesses, duly witnessing the same, and that the names of no more candidates are inserted in such voting-paper than such voter would have been entitled to vote for if he had voted in person at such election.

XLVII. All voting-papers received and recorded by the returning officer at any such election, as well as any voting papers which shall have been rejected by him for informality, or as having arrived too late, shall be filed by him, and any person shall be allowed to examine the same at all reasonable times, and to have copies thereof, upon the terms herein provided in the table of fees in Schedule B to this Act.

XLVIII. Any person falsely personating any other person whose name appears on any register of voters for any county or borough, whether such other person shall then be living or dead, or falsely assuming to sign any voting-paper in the name of such other person, and any person counterfeiting the name or signature of any witness to any voting-paper, and every person tendering or transmitting as genuine any false or counterfeit voting-paper, or aiding in so doing, knowing the same to be false or counterfeit in any particular, and any person voting more than once at any election for any county or borough, either in person or by voting-paper, or by both, although no question shall be put to him touching his right to vote thereat, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and on being convicted thereof shall be punishable by fine or imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, with or without hard labour.

XLIX. The clerk of the peace of every county, and the town-clerk of every borough, shall, immediately after the passing of this Act, cause to be printed, and shall at all times afterwards keep, a sufficient quantity of voting-papers in the forms numbered 2 and 3 in the said Schedule D, in their respective offices; and upon the issuing of a writ for holding an election for any county or borough, the said clerk of the peace or town-clerk shall deliver to the returning officer such number of the said voting-papers as he may require upon being paid the cost price of printing the same.

L. The expenses incurred in printing such voting-papers, and transmitting them to voters, shall be charged by the returning officer to, and shall be paid by, the candidate or candidates at such election, in the proportion in which the voters to whom such voting-papers shall have been issued shall have recorded their votes in favour of such candidate or candidates respectively.

LI. The provisions herein contained relating to voting-papers shall extend and apply to the voting at the election of any member or members for the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, so far as the same are applicable; and the Vice-Chancellors of the said Universities respectively shall, upon the request of any person entitled to vote at any such election, issue to such person, in the manner and at the times hereinbefore provided, a voting-paper in the forms numbered 2 and 3 in the Schedule D to this Act, or to the like effect, and shall open and record the votes therefrom, and otherwise deal with the same in the manner hereinbefore provided.

LII. It shall not be lawful for any candidate at any election to pay any money on account of the conveyance of any voter to the poll, either to the voter himself or to any other person; and if any such candidate, or any person on his behalf, and with his authority, shall pay any money on account of the conveyance of any voter to the poll, such payment shall be deemed to be an illegal payment within the meaning of the Corrupt Practices' Prevention Act, 1854.

LIII. In all future Parliaments each of the boroughs enumerated in the Schedule G to this Act annexed shall, from and after the end of this present Parliament, return one member, and no more, to serve in Parliament.

LIV. The southern division of the county of Lancaster shall be divided and formed into two divisions; the West Riding of the county of York shall be divided into three divisions, and the county of Middlesex shall be divided into two divisions; and such divisions of the county of Lancaster, of the West Riding of the county of York, and of the county of Middlesex, shall consist of the hundreds, wapentakes, and parishes respectively, as described in the schedule H to this Act annexed, and in all future Parliaments there shall be two knights of the shire to serve for each of such divisions; and the court for the election of knights of the shire for each of such divisions shall be holden at the place named for that purpose in the said schedule H, and all enactments now in force applicable to divisions of counties returning knights of the shire to serve in Parliament, and all enactments hereinafter contained applicable to such divisions of counties, shall be deemed and taken to extend and apply to the divisions constituted as aforesaid.

LV. Each of the places named in Schedule I to this Act annexed shall, for the purposes of this Act, be a borough, and shall, as such borough, be comprised within the boundaries and shall include the places specified in the said Schedule I, in connexion with such borough, and each of the said boroughs named in the said schedule I shall, from and after the end of the present Parliament, return one member to serve in Parliament.

LVI. In each of the boroughs named in Schedule I to this Act annexed, which are now incorporated, or within which there shall be any incorporated place, the mayor or other chief municipal officer for such borough or place for the time being shall be the returning officer for such borough, and in each of the boroughs in the said Schedule I which are not now incorporated, and in which there shall be no incorporated place, the sheriff for the time being of the county in which each of such unincorporated boroughs is situate shall, within two months after the passing of this Act, and in every succeeding year in the month of March, by writing under his hand, to be delivered to the clerk of the peace of the county, and to be by such clerk of the peace filed and preserved with the records of his office, nominate and appoint, for such respective borough, a fit person, being resident therein, to be, and such person so nominated and appointed shall accordingly be, the returning officer for such respective borough until the nomination to be made in the succeeding month of March; and the provisions contained in the 11th section of the said Act of the second year of King William IV., providing for the event of the death or incapacity of any person appointed as returning officer for any borough, and exempting any person so appointed from serving again in the same office, and disqualifying certain persons from being so appointed, and persons so appointed from being appointed churchwardens or overseers; and providing for the case of a charter of incorporation being granted to any borough, shall extend and be applicable in relation to the nomination and appointment of returning officers for the said unincorporated boroughs in the said Schedule I to this Act, and the returning officers to be nominated and appointed for the same under this enactment, and for the purposes of this provision the borough of Staleybridge shall be deemed to be situated in the county of Chester.

LVII. And whereas in the case of divers boroughs returning a member or members to serve in Parliament the population properly belonging to such boroughs has extended beyond the Parliamentary limits thereof, and a large proportion of the inhabitants of the towns or places comprising such boroughs are without any voice in the election of the member or members for such boroughs; and whereas it is desirable that in all such cases the boundaries of boroughs should be so enlarged as to comprise within them every part of the population substantially forming part of such boroughs: be it enacted, that the "Enclosure Commissioners" for England and Wales shall, immediately after the passing of this Act, appoint special assistant commissioners, who shall forthwith visit every borough in England and Wales, and examine the boundaries of such borough and the location of the inhabitants, and the said Enclosure Commissioners shall, on or before the first day of January next after the passing of this Act, report to her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether any enlargement of the present boundaries of such boroughs is necessary in order to include within the area thereof the population properly belonging to such boroughs respectively, and in such report shall propose such new boundaries as in their judgment would effect that object, with the view of being submitted to Parliament in the ensuing Session; and the assistant commissioners so appointed shall give notice by public advertisement of their intention to visit such boroughs, and shall appoint a time for receiving the statements of any persons who may be

desirous of giving information as to the boundaries or other local circumstances of such boroughs, and shall, by personal inspection and such other means as they shall think necessary, possess themselves of such information as will enable them to make such report and recommendation as aforesaid.

LVIII. Every person on whom, under the provisions hereinbefore contained, a right of voting at any election for any county or borough is conferred shall, subject to the conditions affecting such right, be entitled to vote at any election of a member or members to serve in Parliament for such county or borough which shall take place after the thirty-first day of December, 1859, and subject to the conditions affecting his right to be registered in any year shall be entitled to be registered in any register of voters to be formed for such county or borough in or after the year 1859.

LIX. Registers of voters shall be formed in and after the year 1859, notwithstanding the continuance of this present Parliament, for or in respect of the several new divisions of counties and the boroughs constituted by this Act, in like manner as if they were respectively divisions of counties and boroughs now returning members to serve in Parliament.

LX. If by reason of a dissolution of the present Parliament, or by any avoidance of a seat therein which may take effect after the passing of this Act, and before the day at and from which the registers of voters to be framed under the provisions of this Act shall be in force, in such case such persons only shall be entitled to vote at any election for any county or borough now returning members to serve in Parliament as are upon the registers in force for such county or borough at the time of such dissolution or avoidance.

LXI. If a dissolution of the present Parliament shall take effect after the passing of this Act, before the day at and from which the register of voters to be framed under the provisions of this Act shall be in force, in such case the writs for the new divisions of counties and the new boroughs hereby created shall not be issued until the time when such registers shall be in force.

LXII. If this Act shall not be passed before the day fixed therein for the issuing of a precept by the clerk of the peace or town clerk to the overseers, then and in such case such precept shall be issued by such clerk of the peace or town-clerk respectively, to the overseers of the poor, on such day as her Majesty shall, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, order and direct, and all notices shall be published; and all other Acts, for the purpose of forming a complete register of voters for every county and borough, according to the provisions of this Act, shall be done on the several days specified in such Order in Council, in lieu of the days hereinbefore specified; and such order shall provide for the same intervals between the several acts necessary to be done in the formation of the register of voters as are by this Act provided between the several days herein named.

LXIII. So much of the several acts of Parliament mentioned in the schedule F to this Act as is specified concerning the same Acts respectively in the third column of the said schedule shall be and is hereby repealed.

LXIV. So much of the Act of the sixth year of her Majesty as is not hereby repealed shall, as amended by this Act, be applicable for the registration of persons entitled to vote, and to the rights of voting, and to proceedings in the elections of members to serve in Parliament under this Act as if the several enactments herein contained relating to the matters contained in the said recited Act had originally been inserted in and formed part of the said recited Act.

LXV. No person shall be entitled to be registered, or to vote at any election of a member to serve in Parliament, unless he shall have some one of the qualifications hereinbefore defined and subject to the provisions of this Act, all laws, statutes, usages, provisions, and penalties now in force respecting the registration of voters and election of members to serve in Parliament for England and Wales not hereby repealed, shall be and remain in full force.

LXVI. All writs to be issued for the election of members to serve in Parliament, and all notices and other proceedings consequent upon such writs, shall be framed and expressed in such manner and form as may be necessary for the carrying the provisions of the Act into effect.

LXVII. This Act shall not extend to Scotland or Ireland, nor shall it extend to either of the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge, except as hereinbefore provided in regard to voting-papers.

LXVIII. Whereas by the Act of the sixth year of the reign of Queen Anne, chap. 7, all persons appointed to offices of profit under the Crown, and thereafter duly elected as members of the House of Commons, are required to vacate their seats upon the acceptance of any other office of profit under the Crown, and it is expedient to alter the laws in this respect; be it therefore enacted, that if any person appointed to any office of profit under the Crown, and thereafter duly returned as a member of the House of Commons, shall, while he continues to be such member, accept any office of profit under the Crown (except an office which by law incapacitates the holder thereof from being elected or from voting in Parliament), the acceptance of such other office shall not render the election of such person void, nor shall any writ thereupon issue for a new election.

LXIX. Throughout this Act, and in the schedules hereto, the following words shall have the meanings respectively given to them in this section, except there be something in the subject or context inconsistent with or repugnant to such meaning. The word "county" shall include any county, riding, parts, or divisions of a county, in England and Wales. The word "borough" shall include any city borough, city, or town, being a county of itself, town corporate, cinque port, district, place or places, within England or Wales, returning a member or members to serve in Parliament, and every place sharing therewith in such election, and the town of Berwick-on-Tweed. The words "clerk of the peace" shall comprehend and apply to any deputy or other person executing the duties of such clerk of the peace. The words "town-clerk" shall extend to and include any person executing the duties of town-clerk, or if in any city or borough there shall be no such officer as town-clerk, then to any officer executing the same or like duties as usually devolve upon the town-clerk, or if in any city or borough there be no such person, then to the returning officer of such city or borough, or to such person as the returning officer may appoint for that purpose, which he is hereby authorised to do, and the Town-clerk for the borough of Newport, in the Isle of Wight, shall, for the purposes of this Act, be taken to be the clerk of the peace for the county of the Isle of Wight. The word "member" shall include a knight of the shire. The word "election" shall mean the election of any knight or knights of the shire, or any member or members to serve in Parliament. The words "returning officer" shall include the sheriff of any county, and apply to every person or persons to whom, by virtue of his or their office, under any law, custom, or statute, the execution of any writ doth or shall belong for the election of a member or members to serve in Parliament, by whatever name or title such person or persons may be called. The word "parish" shall extend to and mean every parish, township, village, hamlet, district, or place maintaining its own poor. The word "overseers" shall include all persons who, by virtue of any office or appointment, shall execute the duties of overseers of the poor, by whatever name or title such persons may be called, and in whatever manner they may be appointed, and all matters by this Act directed to be done by the overseers of a parish or township may be lawfully done by the majority of such overseers. The words "list of voters" shall mean the list of voters for the election of a member or members to serve in Parliament. The word "register" shall mean the register of voters entitled to vote in the election of a knight or knights of the shire, or a member or members to serve in Parliament for any county, city, or borough. The words "revising barrister" shall mean the revising barrister or barristers appointed to revise the list of voters for any county, city, or borough.

LXX. In citing this Act in any instrument, document, or proceeding, or for any purpose whatsoever, it shall be sufficient to use the expression, "The Parliamentary Representation Act, 1859."

SCHEDULE G.

BOURGHES NOW RETURNING TWO MEMBERS WHICH ARE IN FUTURE TO RETURN ONE MEMBER EACH.

Honiton.	Wells.	Ludlow.
Thetford.	Richmond.	Andover.
Totnes.	Marlborough.	Knarborough.
Marwich.	Leominster.	Tewkesbury.
Eversham.	Lymington.	Maldon.

SCHEDULE I.

PLACES TO BE BOURGHES TO RETURN ONE MEMBER EACH, WITH CONTENTS OF THEIR BOUNDARIES.

West Bromwich, Staffordshire.—The parishes of West Bromwich and Wednesbury.
Birkenhead, Cheshire.—The township or chapelry of Birkenhead; townships of Cloughton-cum-Grange, Oxtan, and Tranmere.
Burnley, Lancashire.—The townships of Burnley and Habergham Eaves.
Stalybridge, Cheshire and Lancashire.—The town of Stalybridge, as the limits thereof are declared by an Act passed in the ninth year of King George IV., entitled "An Act for lighting, watching, and otherwise improving the town of Stalybridge, in the counties palatine of Lancaster and Cheshire, and for regulating a police thereof, and for establishing and regulating a market, and erecting a market-place within the said town;" and the township of Dukinfield so far as the same is not comprised within those limits.
Croydon, Surrey.—The parish of Croydon and the hamlet of Penge.
Gravesend, Kent.—The parishes of Gravesend, Milton, and Northfleet.
Hartlepool, Durham.—The parishes, townships, and places of Hartlepool, West Hartlepool, Stranton, Briarton, Seaton-Carew, Greatham, Claxton, Hart, Throston, Elwick, Elwick-hall, Dalton Percy, and Thorp Bulmer.

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